#### **UConn** women hold on

Huskies get sloppy, hold off fourth-quarter run to beat Creighton. **Sports, Page 1** 

#### Patriots drop finale

Dolphins sweep New England for first time since the 2000 season. **Sports, Page 1** 

#### Chance for snow



Chance of late-day snow; high of 29. **Sports, Page 8** 



VOLUME CLXXXVI COURANT.COM MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2022

# Meriden to launch state's pilot program

Household foodscrap collection to help reduce waste

By Jesse Leavenworth Hartford Courant

A pilot food-scrap collection set to launch this month in 1,000 Meriden households is meant to spearhead a reduction in organic waste throughout Connecticut. Green bags will be distributed

to homes on Jan. 22 and 23 for the four-month program, the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection announced. The bags will be collected along with other trash in orange bags, but the organic waste will be sent to Quantum Biopower in Southington to be transformed into energy.

"The city of Meriden is leading the way by launching this pilot at a critical time for Connecticut's waste system," DEEP Commissioner Katie Dykes said. "These strategies have been shown to work elsewhere in the U.S. and abroad."

The program is part of an effort to address the statewide wastedisposal crisis, which will soon get worse with the planned shutdown of the trash-to-energy plant in Hartford in June and the certainty that much of Connecticut's waste will be going to out-of-state landfills. State environmental officials have been urging recycling and reuse solutions.

The city of Middletown last year launched a pioneering food-scrap recycling effort, enlisting Main Street restaurants in collecting all vegetable and meat scraps from their kitchens and patrons' plates. The scraps go into yellow-lidded blue bins and smaller black pails, to be collected twice weekly

by Hartford-based Blue Earth Compost.

DEEP officials say about 35% of material sent from Connecticut homes and businesses to landfills and trash-to-energy plants is organic and could be used as compost and animal feed or converted to gas and fuel at anaerobic digestion facilities.

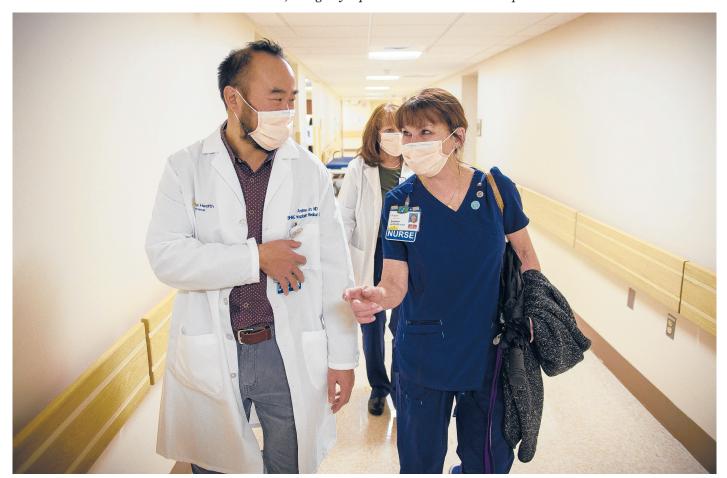
The DEEP, Dykes said, has

Turn to Program, Page 3

#### **CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT**

"Everyone's tired now. You frequently hear, 'I can't do this anymore. I'm done' then five minutes later, someone picks them right up and they're back to where they were."

— Barbara O'Neill, emergency department nurse at Bristol Hospital



Dr. Andrew Lim walks to the Bristol Hospital emergency department with nurse Barbara O'Neill, right, and case manager Theresa Landau. COVID-19 pressures have increased patient load and decreased staffing numbers at hospitals across the state. MARK MIRKO PHOTOS/HARTFORD COURANT

# More patients, fewer staff and a lack of beds

Connecticut emergency departments hit by omicron surge



At Bristol Hospital, O'Neill talks in a hallway with President and CEO Kurt Barwis.

By Don Stacom | Hartford Courant

s the omicron surge ran through central Connecticut during the holidays, Bristol Hospital's emergency department was at times handling almost twice its normal number of patients — and with a reduced staff.

"We expect on average about 80 patients in a day. Last week we would see peaks of 150," said Dr. Andrew Lim, director of the emergency department. "And that's with less staff. With the positivity rate above 25 percent a lot of our staff are becoming sick."

The situation is similar in many hospitals across the state, where COVID-19 patients are once again filling beds after a seasonlong lull following the worst of the delta variant.

But at the same time, the ranks of nurses and support staff are down, partly because some frustrated and

**Turn to Strain,** Page 2

# Film tax credits not worth it

Hundreds of millions spent on jobs before Disney closed shop

By Erica E. Phillips CT Mirror

It was a Hollywood ending, but not the good kind.

An executive decision, made in a Disney boardroom thousands of miles away, led to the shuttering of Greenwich animation company Blue Sky Studios in April, leaving more than 450 people out of work.

The move came after more than a decade of state support for Blue Sky Studios, in the form of hundreds of millions of Connecticut taxpayer dollars in incentives aimed at creating and retaining jobs and economic activity. The most recent installment — a \$32 million tax credit payment — was disbursed less than two weeks before corporate parent Disney announced it was closing the shop.

That's raised questions about whether Connecticut should keep rolling out the red carpet for an industry that is characteristically fleeting.

Beyond its home base in Hollywood, film and television production is driven by tax incentives. Steve Kaplan, a representative with The Animation Guild in Los Angeles, said animation studios in places like Atlanta, Portland and Vancouver perform a lot of contract work for Hollywood conglomerates, passing along local tax credits to the major studio — often as a condition of the contract.

But with so many tax credits available across states and around the world, Connecticut's incentive program may not have even factored into Disney's move to shutter Blue Sky Studios, Kaplan said.

"They're a multinational conglomerate. They made a decision based on money. I doubt the Connecticut incentive crossed their mind."

The dynamics of the Hollywood-centered film and TV industry aren't entirely lost on the state's economic development officials. In its 2019 annual report, DECD found that over the last decade, the

Turn to Credits, Page 3

# 9 children among 19 dead in apartment fire in NYC

Faulty space heater to blame for blaze in Bronx, officials say

By Michelle L. Price, Bobby Caina Calvan and David Porter Associated Press

NEW YORK — New York City's deadliest fire in more than three decades, killing 19 people Sunday at a Bronx apartment building, was caused by a faulty space heater, officials said. Nine children were among the dead.

nong the dead. Fire Commissioner Daniel Nigro said the fire "started in a malfunctioning electric space heater" in an apartment unit spanning the second and third floors of the 19-story building.

19-story building.

The door of the apartment was left open, allowing smoke to quickly spread throughout the building, Nigro said.

Some residents, trapped in their apartments, broke windows for air and stuffed wet towels under their doors

Some residents "could not escape because of the volume of smoke," Nigro said.

Turn to Fire, Page 3



A paramedic treats a woman who escaped the deadly fire Sunday in the Bronx borough of New York. Dozens of people were injured. **THEODORE**PARISIENNE/FOR NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

# Restaurants resist vaccine mandate

The state's digital vaccine card was introduced as a tool businesses can use protect employees and customers. But without a mandate, most local restaurants don't plan to use it. **CONNECTICUT, PAGE 1** 

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Hartford Courant

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# Bitter cold coming this week, with lows in the single digits

**By Susan Dunne** Hartford Courant

After a weekend of snow and icy roads, Connecticut should expect a few days of bitter cold early in the week, with Tuesday especially dangerous, according to forecasts.

Gary Lessor, chief meteorologist at the Western Connecticut State University Weather Center, said Monday should be partly sunny

and 25 to 30 degrees, but a late day snow shower or flurry is possible as an Arctic front comes through the

That snow should clear later in the evening, with lows in the single digits and wind-chill values below zero, Lessor said.

Tuesday will be even more frigid, he said. "We'll be looking at the mid-teens for highs with sunshine, and wind chill values around zero most of the day," Lessor said. The temperature should be around zero on Tuesday night, with cold air spots reaching possibly 10 below zero, especially in Litchfield County.

The temperatures should rebound by Wednesday, rising to the low- to mid-30s with partly sunny skies, he said, with higher elevations such as Litchfield, Tolland and Windham counties staying in the upper 20s. Thursday and Friday

should be in the 30s and partly sunny, he added.

Lessor advised preparedness and caution during the bitter days. "Those that have oil heat, fill

the oil tanks to make sure you have enough oil to get through. No exposed skin. This is the time where you wear a scarf or something to cover your face. Mittens are better than gloves," Lessor said.

"At least minimally have half

a tank of gas at all times so that doesn't freeze. Do not leave pets outside even during the daytime. It's just going to be too cold. If you bring your pets on walks, make them short, not long, walks. Limit your exposure to the outdoors," he said.

For updates, visit forecast. weather.gov.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

#### Strain

from Page 1

burned-out workers left the career. Even worse, the highly contagious omicron variant is striking hospital staff too, sidelining hundreds of workers when they're needed most.

That means in emergency rooms and across health care — the staff is worn down from nearly two years of the pandemic and battling a new wave of extra work.

We have more staff out now than last winter or than in the initial surge of 2020," said Caryl Ryan, chief nursing officer at UConn's John Dempsey Hospital. "And our patient volumes are very high. Our numbers for COVID-19 (cases) are going up to probably half of where they were in the first and second surges, and it's supposed to keep rising for three weeks.

"Our ED is the department that's probably encountered the biggest change in patient volume and staff

The situation is serious at Hart $for d\, Health Care, parent\, of\, Hartford$ Hospital, St. Vincent's in Bridgeport, the Hospital of Central Connecticut, Backus Hospital and several others.

"We have just over 600 Hartford HealthCare colleagues who are out of work, who are quarantining and COVID positive," President and Chief Executive Officer Jeffrey Flaks told a news conference last week.

At Stamford Hospital, Dr. Rohit Bhalla noted that even though patient volumes and demand for staffare high, hospitals are still doing routine services and procedures unlike in the spring of 2020 when nearly all of that was suspended.

"We're functioning as we normally do but at a very, very busy level," Bhalla said.

#### All hands on deck

All of the physicians, nurses and

hospital executives who spoke with The Courant said the quality of care remains strong, but acknowledged they're going to extraordinary lengths to keep staffing up.

Nearly all hospitals are shuttling staff from other assignments into the emergency department or medical floors as needed, and offering incentive — sometimes triple base bay — to attract staff to work overtime. Agencies that supply temporary nurses are charging even more.

Bristol Hospital, for instance, has paid up to \$175 an hour for a fill-in registered nurse on a medical surgical floor and \$190 in the intensive care unit or operating room.

A few hospitals now pull in administrative workers to pitch in with the lower-skill tasks such as housekeeping that would normally fall to nurses or aides. Barwis' staff credits his executive team for stepping forward.

"Leadership is out on the floors every day — they sign up to do 'helping hands' on the floor, answer call bells, walk patients to the bathroom, sit with patients who need constant observation," said Michelle Miranda, Bristol Hospital's director of inpatient and emergency services.

"We're holding it together. We have a dedicated core staff that's toughing it out." But she acknowledged that following the national trend, some Bristol nursing and support staff have left the field altogether because they're burned out.

At Bristol's emergency department, nurse Barbara O'Neill said it's a tough time — and she has the experience to know.

"It's been challenging. I'd be a liar if I said it hasn't been. The volume is terrible now, but we handle it much better than we did with the first round. And we know so much more now than we did," said O'Neill, 75. who has been an emergency nurse at Bristol for 53 years.

"In the first round, I was scared



Nurse Barbara O'Neill, left, case manager Theresa Landau and Dr. Andrew Lim work in the Bristol Hospital emergency department. MARK MIRKO/ HARTFORD COURANT

to death. I'm old, and the old people were the ones who were dying," she said. "The staff was very protective of me. It was very rare I'd get an assignment with a COVID patient. If I did, I'd be getting dressed (in protective equipment) to go in and somebody would push me out of the way saying 'No, I'll do it.'"

With the risk lower and patient volume up, O'Neill is handling the same duties as any other emergency department nurse this time around. She's working 12-hour shifts and credits her young colleagues with

keeping everyone's morale up. "Everyone is tired now. You frequently hear, 'I can't do this anymore. I'm done' - then five minutes later, someone picks them right up and they're back to where

they were," she said. A particular frustration is that when waves of COVID-19 patients show up at the emergency department, there's often an hourslong wait and no available room after they're admitted, she said.

"The floors are in the same predicament with low staff, so we have all these in-patients and then this big influx in the waiting room," O'Neill said.

#### A paperwork wall

A lot of the backlog is because transferring relatively stable patients to other facilities isn't as simple as in 2020, when insurers were waiving the time-consuming paperwork, according to some hospitals. Restoring that system would help a lot, said Kurt Barwis,

Bristol Hospital president. Now, administrative workers spend days getting authorizations, he said. Many insurers work strictly daytime hours and only on weekdays, so a delay on Thursday afternoon can mean a hospital bed is tied

up until Monday or longer. "On average over the last four weeks, we had 1.26 patients parked in in-patient beds waiting for insurance authorization to discharge them to a skilled nursing facility," Barwis said. "Timely authorization by insurance companies would have reduced the ED holds by a whopping 26 percent. It's totally dumbfounding that our system is this

broken and backwards."

Theresa Landau, a case manager at Bristol Hospital, said she's seen how those delays frustrate patients and staff alike. Medicare advantage plans are particularly bad about this, she said.

"Now it's difficult to get those authorizations. We are constantly fighting that battle every day," she said. "We know we need to move people because they're medically ready, and then it backs up because everyone is challenged by how many patients they have."

The hospital was housing nearly 10 such patients a week ago people who were ready for a lower level of care, but still occupied hospital beds because of insurance delays, she said.

"Everything backs up. A couple of days ago, Anthem and Cigna decided to temporarily pause the need for prior authorizations," Lim said. "The other insurance companies in the state need to follow suit.

"The frustration is that everyone in the hospital has gone above and beyond to be creative, to work longer hours and after hours. To this point, insurance companies haven't stepped up.

"Sometimes they're here in the Emergency Department for two or three days. In two or three days, we could have used that bed and that

nursing care for 20 patients." As pressures mount on hospital staff, Lim, O'Neill and others are calling on patients and their families to practice extra patience — especially in long emergency department waits during the pandemic.

"Everybody is frustrated, we know that. But just try to speak calmly: We really are sorry you have to wait, but we're doing the best we can," O'Neill said. "One nurse was crying last week – she was tired; she was picking up extra shifts because we need it now. I just told her, 'It's OK. This too shall pass. You can get through this."

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LOTTERY Sunday, Jan. 9

**PLAY3 DAY PLAY4 DAY** 1 0 1 ws: 2

3 2 6 7 ws: 6 The late numbers were not drawn

in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/lottery. SATURDAY'S LATE NUMBERS **PLAY3 NIGHT PLAY4 NIGHT** 

3 7 0 ws: 8 8 7 5 1ws: 4

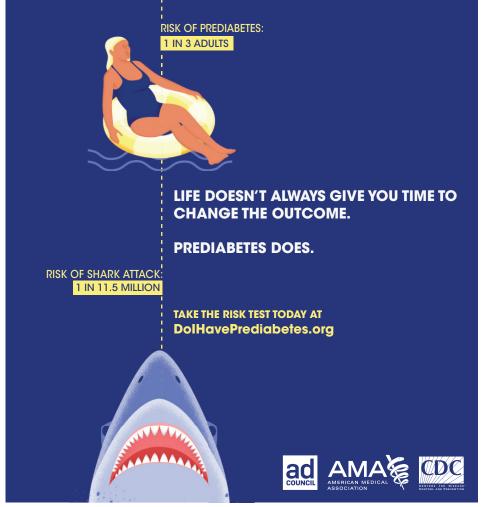
CASH 5 2 3 24 30 33

**LUCKY FOR LIFE** 10 32 44 45 47 LB: 16 POWERBALI

20 21 36 60 65 PB: 13 PP: 10 Tuesday's est. Lotto jacknot: \$2.9 million Tuesday's est. Mega Millions jackpot: \$300 million

Wednesday's est. Powerball iackpot: \$27 million





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#### FROM PAGE ONE

#### Fire

from Page 1

Stefan Ringel, a senior adviser to Mayor Eric Adams, said the children killed were 16 years old or vounger.

Many of the building's residents were originally from the West African nation of Gambia, Adams said, and there was a large Muslim community.

Thirteen people remained hospitalized in critical condition,

In all, more than five dozen people were hurt. Most of the victims had severe smoke inhalation, Nigro said.

Adams, who was inaugurated as the city's new mayor Jan. 1, called the fire's toll "horrific" and said "this is going to be one of the worst fires that we have witnessed during modern times."

Firefighters "found victims on every floor and were taking them out in cardiac and respiratory arrest," Nigro said.

About 200 firefighters responded to the building on East 181st Street around 11 a.m. Sunday.

Building resident Luis Rosa said he was awakened Sunday by a fire alarm, but dismissed it at first, thinking it was one of the building's periodic false alarms.

But when a notification popped up on his phone, he and his mother began to worry.

By then, smoke began wafting into his 13th-floor apartment and he heard sirens in the distance. He opened the front door, but

the smoke had gotten too thick for an escape, he said.

"Once I opened the door, I couldn't even see that far down the



A firefighter carries a child out of a fire in a high-rise building in the Tremont section of the Bronx on Sunday. Residents who survived the inferno described a quiet morning that suddenly was overtaken by terror and tragedy. DAVID DEE DELGADO/THE NEW YORK TIMES

hallway," Rosa said.

"All we could do was wait," he

Another resident, Vernessa Cunningham said she raced home from church after getting an alert on her cellphone that the building was on fire.

"I couldn't believe what I was seeing. I was in shock," Cunningham, 60, said from a nearby school where some residents gathered. "I could see my apartment. The windows were all busted out. And I could see flames coming from the back of the building."

The 120-unit building in the Twin Parks North West complex was built in 1973 as part of a project to build modern, affordable housing in the Bronx.

The drab brown building looms over an intersection of smaller, aging brick buildings overlooking Webster Avenue, one of the Bronx's main thoroughfares.

Apartments as high as the 12th floor also had broken windows. The intersection was choked with police and fire vehicles.

"There's no guarantee that

there's a working fire alarm in every apartment, or in every common area," said U.S. Rep. Ritchie Torres, who represents the area. "Most of these buildings have no sprinkler system. And so the housing stock of the Bronx is much more susceptible to devastating fires than most of the housing stock in the city."

Nigro and Torres compared the fire's severity to a 1990 blaze at the Happy Land social club where 87 people were killed when a man set fire to the building after getting into an argument with his former



Firefighters hoisted a ladder to rescue people through their windows. THEODORE PARISIENNE/ **NEW YORK DAILY NEWS/TNS** 

girlfriend and being thrown out of the Bronx club.

Sunday's death toll was the highest for a fire in the city since the Happy Land fire. It was also the deadliest fire at a U.S. residential apartment building since 2017 when 13 people died in an apartment building, also in the Bronx, according to data from the National Fire Protection Associ-

The deadliest fire in the city's history was in 1911, at the Triangle Shirtwaist Company factory in lower Manhattan, where 146 people died.

Sunday's blaze happened just days after 12 people, including eight children, were killed in a house fire in Philadelphia.

The deadliest fire prior to that was in 1989 when a Tennessee apartment building fire claimed the lives of 16 people.

The New York Times contributed.

#### **Credits**

from Page 1

average economic impact of the Film and Digital Media Production Tax Credit amounted to a loss of \$58,510,604 in net revenue per year — well over half a billion dollars in all.

"While there are gains in jobs, the additional revenue gained by the state do not compensate for the loss in state tax revenue due to the credits," the department concluded in the report. But DECD went on to recommend continuing the program despite those losses.

DECD said it has commissioned an outside consultancy to evaluate the state's film tax credit programs. And in its most recent 2020 annual report, the agency said it was awaiting the results of that study - originally expected in mid-2021 — before recommending any changes. The report was delayed and is now expected to be made public later this month.

#### A fixture in Greenwich

After nearly 35 years in Connecticut, Blue Sky Studios had become a source of pride for the state's film and television sector. Soon after 20th Century Fox took a majority stake in the company, in the late 1990s, the studio launched its "Ice Age" franchise, followed by its "Rio" movies. It also produced the Oscar-nominated "Ferdinand." "The Peanuts Movie" and others.

In 2019, Disney absorbed Blue Sky Studios in a \$70 billion deal to acquire Fox's film and television assets. And over the following two years, employees at the studio grew increasingly concerned about their fate — even as production continued on the animated feature "Nimona."

In early February 2021, Disney announced plans to shutter the studio, shelving "Nimona." Blue Sky Studios vice president Carolyn Wilson notified the Connecticut Department of Labor of the imminent layoffs of all 469 the company's employees.

"Due to the continuing business impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, Blue Sky Studios Inc. has made the very difficult decision to close its studio and begin the process of permanent layoffs at its One America Lane, Greenwich, Connecticut 06831 location," Wilson wrote. "We hope to accomplish our reduction in force with the least possible disruption to the lives of our employees."

That notice was dated less than two weeks after Blue Sky Studios received a \$32 million tax credit from the state of Connecticut — the second such payment in as many

The value of those credits exceeded what auditors have since said should have been the upper limit of any credit granted to animation studios in the state: \$15 million a year. In their most recent audit of the Department of Economic and Community Development, which administers film and television tax credits, state auditors concluded that Connecticut overpaid Blue Sky Studios by almost \$50 million during the fiscal years 2016 through 2019.

(Blue Sky Studios also received incentives under another state program, the Film Infrastructure Tax Credit, which covers 20% of



A film crew sets up to shoot a scene in the yard of a Hartford residence on Charter Oak Avenue in Hartford in May, where "Call Jane" was being filmed. **MARK MIRKO** 

any infrastructure costs, such as buildings and production facilities, of over \$3 million. Blue Sky received a total of about \$7.4 million in infrastructure credits in the years 2009, 2012 and 2014. Auditors didn't take issue with those credits.)

The audit report, released March 31 of last year, didn't include tax credit data for 2020 and 2021. But by the auditors' same logic, the two \$32 million payments to Blue Sky Studios in the last two years would amount to overpayment of another \$34 million, they told the Mirror. That's because, according to auditors, Blue Sky Studios applied for - and received — the wrong credit. The company should have been eligible for a program known as the Digital Animation Production Tax Credit, which is capped at \$15 million a year, auditors said. Between 2009 and 2016. Blue Sky Studios received the full \$15 million animation credit every year, and it remains the only company that has received incentives under that

Beginning in 2016, Blue Sky Studios shifted to the broader Film and Digital Media Production Tax Credit, which has no cap. Under that program, companies can receive — in the form of a tax credit - up to 30% off qualified production expenses or costs incurred in the state. "These tax credits are not tied to a specific economic development project or the amount of jobs created or retained," auditors said.

According to DECD data, 2020 and 2021 payments to Blue Sky Studios under this program were based on in-state spending of more than \$105 million each of the two years in question. By the time the second of those two tax credit payments arrived, Disney was days away from announcing Blue Sky Studios' permanent closure.

#### The 'ephemeral industry'

Many studies in other states and countries have raised similar criticisms of local film tax credits. Production activity may build up somewhere for a period of years, as long as tax incentives are available, but the industry base has remained in California. Hollywood still holds the purse strings.

When I spend a dollar on a film tax credit, I'm incentivizing economic activity today that may not be there tomorrow," said Michael N'dolo, an economic development consultant who has studied film tax credits in several states. "It's a somewhat ephemeral industry that is highly sensitive to incentives and will go where the incentives are. You can see that in the numbers: As states expand their tax credits, the industry responds. It's quite elastic."

Connecticut's Film and Digital Media Production Tax Credit is this state's only continuing business incentive program — grant, loan or tax credit — that is calculated as a discount off a company's expenses in the state, as opposed to being tied to a specific project, investment or number of jobs created or retained. And there's no limit on the number of years a company can receive the tax credit. In this way, Connecticut's program is very similar to those in other states competing for film production activity.

George Norfleet, commissioner of the Connecticut film office, said tying a production tax credit to a company's expenditures makes more sense than requiring a set number of jobs. "You're not going to need the same amount of people working on a webisode or commercial that you would have working on an continuing television production. So I think it's hard for us to tell a producer how many people he or she needs or that company might need to execute a particular type of production," he said. "We've tied it to [capital expenditures] as opposed to job creation, but of course you've got to have a crew, so you know you're creating jobs."

Norfleet also pointed to the other two film and television industry incentive programs his office administers: the Digital Animation Production Tax Credit, which requires recipients to employ at least 200 full-time employees and is capped at \$15 million, and the Film Infrastructure Tax Credit, which covers a portion of facility construction costs of over \$3 million.

Infrastructure credits have declined steeply since a high of \$40 million in 2013, and the state didn't award any in 2018 or 2020. Since 2017, the state has awarded no animation credits.

N'dolo said the kind of incentives that encourage the long-term development of an industry — like infrastructure credits — are more economically sound. Building up an industry "cluster" for film and television can attract multiple studios and a permanent workforce available for whatever productions might come through, he said. "If I were to do anything, that's what I would suggest a state to do - incentivize fixed assets associated with your production capacity."

The Film Infrastructure Tax Credit has helped companies like ESPN, NBC, Disney and WWE strengthen their physical roots in Connecticut, Norfleet said. Since 2009, WWE has received just over \$10 million under the infrastructure program, NBC about \$32 million, and ESPN has gained \$48 million in tax credits toward buildings and facilities, according to DECD data. Each of those studios also receives several million in annual credits under the film and digital media credit program.

"Our bread and butter is definitely the brick-and-mortar television soundstage-type studio businesses, where people come to work 250 days a year to the same building to a production," Norfleet said.

## Taking a closer look

For the first 10 years of the headline Film and Digital Media Production Tax Credit, the state paid out between \$22 million and \$79 million in incentives each year. But from 2017 to 2020, the value of the program jumped to an average of about \$130 million a year.

Blue Sky Studios' \$32 million in 2020 accounted for roughly one-quarter of the total credit payments issued under the program - even as the company was swallowed up by a Hollywood behemoth and founders and longtime employees braced themselves for closure.

Connecticut has a major advantage in its proximity to New York City's media industry and workforce. According to the Motion Picture Association's latest report, Connecticut's film industry was directly responsible for more than 13,500 jobs and \$1.8 billion in wages in 2019. The association compiled a list of Connecticut productions over 2019 and 2020, which included a half dozen Christmas movies and several long-running television series such as "Judge Jerry," "Maury," "The People's Court," "The Steve Wilkos Show," and WWE's "Smackdown"

and "Monday Night Raw." Still, state officials continue to provide tens of millions of dollars in tax incentives every year to retain the studios that have put down roots here — with no limit on the number of years companies can apply for the credit and no guarantee a company receiving incentives will keep production going in the state year to year.

State auditors pointed out in an email to the CT Mirror that the law requires that businesses receiving financial assistance "shall not relocate out of state for 10 years after receiving such assistance or during the term of a loan or loan guarantee, whichever is longer, unless the full amount of the assistance is repaid to the state and a penalty equal to 5% of the total assistance received is paid to the state." But recent audits have found that DECD hasn't consistently applied those requirements, nor has the department adequately kept track of "whether companies that received financial assistance remain in the state during the relocation period," auditors said.

In the case of Blue Sky Studios, it's a moot point. The studio was shuttered by its corporate parent. And while many of its former employees have gone on to work at Disney's other animation studios, the company is no longer.

Erica E. Phillips is a reporter for The Connecticut Mirror (ctmirror. org). Copyright 2022 © The Connecticut Mirror.

#### Program from Page 1

been working closely with municipalities over the past year through the Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management (CCSMM) to expand solutions to the waste problem.

"We look forward to supporting the progress of this pilot as a model for others to replicate, and, if successful, explore at scale," Dykes said.

The learning curve about organics recycling, however, is nationwide.

New York City recycles less than 20% of the 3.1 million tons of garbage that its residents produce each year, The New York Times reported. In neighborhoods where brown organics bins are available, just 10% of residents use them, the paper reported.

Connecticut law requires supermarkets, industrial food manufacturers and resorts and conference centers that generate at least 52 tons of organic material each year and are located within 20 miles of a composting facility to separate the organics from other solid waste and ensure the material is recycled.

Funded through a \$40,000 DEEP Save Money and Reduce Trash (SMART) grant, the Meriden pilot program, according to a news release, "will provide the city and the state with valuable information on how the process of food scrap co-collection can reduce the amount of trash residents dispose of at a time when cities and towns have seen municipal solidwaste tipping fees increase considerably over the last few years."

With tipping fees for municipal solid-waste disposal increasing over the past couple of years, "the economic impact to all residents is significant. Fully implemented programs could help keep costs down," said Meriden City Manager Tim Coon.

State funding will cover the color-coded bags, personnel to sort the bags and shipment to Quantum Biopower. In addition to DEEP, the city and Quantum Biopower, project partners include the South Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG), HQ Dumpsters (waste hauler), Sustainable Meriden and WasteZero.

DEEP has found that foodscrap collection programs are most effective when paired with unit-based pricing programs, according to the agency's news release.

Unit-based pricing is based on the amount of trash disposed and is meant to incentivize participation in foodscrap collection and other recycling programs.

For more information on the pilot program, visit meridenct.

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at ileavenworth@ courant.com.

# **WORLD NATION**

# US, Russia see difficult talks ahead

Blinken hoping for a short-term deal to de-escalate tensions

By Matthew Lee Associated Press

WASHINGTON - With the fate of Ukraine and potentially broader post-Cold War European stability at stake, the United States and Russia are holding critical strategic talks that could shape the future of not only their relationship but the relationship between the U.S. and its NATO allies.

Though the immediacy of the threat of a Russian invasion of Ukraine will top the agenda in a series of high-level meetings that are scheduled to get underway Monday, there is a litany of festering but largely unrelated disputes, ranging from arms control to cybercrime and diplomatic issues, for Washington and Moscow to overcome if tensions are to ease. And the recent deployment of Russian troops to Kazakhstan may cast a shadow over the entire exercise.

With much at risk and both warning of dire consequences of failure, the two sides have been positioning themselves for what will be a nearly unprecedented flurry of activity in Europe this week. Yet the wide divergence in their opening positions bodes ill for any type of speedy resolution, and levels of distrust appear higher than at any point since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Sunday that he doesn't expect any breakthroughs in the coming week. Instead, he said a more likely positive outcome



Russian troops take part in drills in December at the Kadamovskiy firing range in the Rostov region in southern Russia. Crises in Ukraine and Kazakhstan are two of the issues that hover over U.S.-Russian talks that will take place Monday in Geneva. AP2021

would be an agreement to de-escalate tensions in the short term and return to talks at an appropriate time in the future. But the U.S. will have to see a de-escalation for there to be actual

"It's very hard to see that happening when there's an ongoing escalation when Russia has a gun to the head of Ukraine with 100.000 troops near its borders, the possibility of doubling that on very short order," Blinken said on ABC's "This Week."

U.S. officials Saturday unveiled some details of the administration's stance, which seem to fall well short of Russian demands. The officials said the U.S. is open to discussions on curtailing possible future deployments of offensive missiles in Ukraine and putting limits on American and NATO military exercises in Eastern Europe if Russia is willing to back off on Ukraine.

But they also said Russia will be hit hard with economic sanctions should it intervene in Ukraine. In addition to direct sanctions on Russian entities, those penalties could include restrictions on products exported from the U.S. to Russia and potentially foreign-made products subject to U.S. jurisdiction.

Russian Deputy Foreign

Minister Sergei Ryabkov, who will lead Russia's delegation at the Geneva talks, responded harshly to Blinken's statement.

"Demands of the United States and other NATO countries that we carry out some de-escalation measures on our territory are excluded from the discussion. This is a non-starter in the literal sense of the word," Ryabkov told the Tass news agency.

He added: "The talks are going to be difficult."

Russia wants the talks initially to produce formally binding security guarantees for itself with a pledge that NATO will not further expand eastward and the removal of U.S. troops and weapons from parts of Europe. But the U.S. and its allies say those are non-starters intentionally designed by Moscow to distract and divide.

In a bid to forestall efforts by Russia to sow discord in the West, the Biden administration has stressed that neither Ukraine nor Europe more broadly will be excluded from any discussion of Ukraine's or Europe's security.

Biden administration officials allow that neither topic can be ignored when senior American and Russian diplomats meet in Geneva

ahead of larger, more inclusive meetings in Brussels and Vienna on Wednesday and Thursday.

"We fully expect that the Russian side will make public comments following the meeting on Monday that will not reflect the true nature of the discussions that took place," said one senior U.S. official who will participate in the talks. The official spoke on condition of anonymity.

That official and others have urged allies to view with "extreme skepticism" anything Moscow says about the so-called Strategic Stability Talks and wait until they are briefed by U.S. participants to form opin-

Blinken has accused Russia of mounting a full-scale disinformation campaign designed to blame Ukraine, NATO and particularly the United States for the current tensions and undercut Western unity. He said Russian President Vladimir Putin is engaged in an all-out war on the truth that ignores Russia's own provocative and destabilizing actions over the course of the past decade.

Russia, meanwhile, has spun a narrative that it is a threatened victim of Western aggression and wants quick results from the meetings despite what appear insurmountable differences.

Putin has repeatedly warned that Moscow will have to take unspecified "military-technical measures" if the West stonewalls Russia's demands. and affirmed that NATO membership for Ukraine or the deployment of alliance weapons there is a red line for Moscow that it wouldn't allow the West to cross.

# Omicron variant puts employees in a jam

Those with no paid time off either stay home or work sick

By Anne D'Innocenzio and Dee-Ann Durbin

Associated Press

As the raging omicron variant of COVID-19 infects workers across the nation. millions of those whose jobs don't provide paid sick days are having to choose between their health and their paycheck.

While many companies instituted more robust sick leave policies at the beginning of the pandemic, some of those have since been scaled back with the rollout of the vaccines, even though omicron has managed to evade the shots. Meanwhile, the current labor shortage is adding to the pressure of workers having to decide whether to show up to their job sick if they can't afford to stay home.

'It's a vicious cycle," said Daniel Schneider, professor of public policy at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. "As staffing gets depleted because people are out sick, that means that those that are on the job have more to do and are even more reluctant to call in sick when they in turn

Low-income hourly workers are especially vulnerable. Nearly 80%



A medical technician performs a nasal swab test on a motorist last month in Denver. DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/AP 2021

of all private sector workers get at least one paid sick day, according to a national compensation survey of employee benefits conducted in March by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. But only 33% of workers whose wages are at the bottom 10% get paid sick leave, compared with 95% in the top 10%.

A survey this past fall of roughly 6,600 hourly low-wage workers conducted by Harvard's Shift Project, which focuses on inequality, found that 65% of those workers who reported being sick in the last month said they went to work anyway. That's lower than the 85% who showed up to work sick before the pandemic, but much higher than it should be in the middle of a public health crisis. Schneider says it could get worse.

What's more, Schneider noted that the share of workers with paid sick leave before the pandemic barely budged during the pandemic - 50% versus 51%, respectively.

The AP interviewed one worker who started a new job with the state of New Mexico last month and started experiencing symptoms earlier in the week. The worker, who asked not to be named because it might jeopardize their employment, took a day off to get tested and two more days to wait for the results.

A supervisor called and told the worker they would qualify for paid sick days only if the COVID-19 test turns out to be positive. If the test is negative, the worker will have to take the days without pay, since they haven't accrued enough time for sick leave.

"I thought I was doing the right thing by protecting my co-workers," said the worker, who is still awaiting the results and estimates it will cost \$160 per day of would've gone to work and not said anything."

Some companies are curtailing sick time that they offered earlier in the pandemic.

Kroger, the country's biggest traditional grocery chain, is ending some benefits for unvaccinated salaried workers in an attempt to compel more of them to get the shot as COVID-19 cases rise again. Unvaccinated workers enrolled in Kroger's health care plan will no longer be eligible to receive up to two weeks paid emergency leave if they become infected — a policy that was put into place last vear when vaccines were unavailable.

Meanwhile, Walmart, the nation's largest retailer, is slashing pandemic-related paid leave from two weeks to one after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reduced isolation requirements for people who don't have symptoms after they test positive.

Workers have received some relief from a growing number of states. In the last decade, 14 states and the District of Columbia have passed laws or ballot measures requiring employers to provide paid sick leave, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

On the federal front. work missed if they test the movement has stalled. negative. "Now I wish I just Congress passed a law in the spring of 2020 requiring most employers to provide paid sick leave for employees with COVID-related illnesses. But the requirement expired Dec. 31 of that year. Congress later extended tax credits for employers who voluntarily provide paid sick leave, but the extension lapsed at the end of September, according to the U.S. Department

In November, the House passed a version of President Joe Biden's Build Back Better plan that would require employers to provide 20 days of paid leave for employees who are sick or caring for a family member. But the fate of that bill is uncertain in the

Senate. The U.S. is among 11 countries worldwide without any federal mandate for paid sick leave, according to a 2020 study by the World Policy Analysis Center at the University of California, Los Angeles.

On the flipside are small-business owners like Dawn Crawley, CEO of House Cleaning Heroes, who can't afford to pay workers when they are out sick. But she recently drove one cleaner who didn't have a car to a nearby testing site.

"If they are out, I try to give them money but at the



New York City Mayor Eric Adams allowed the measure to become law Sunday. SPENCER PLATT/GETTY

# New law in NYC allows noncitizens to vote in local races

By Bobby Caina Calvan Associated Press

NEW YORK - More than 800,000 noncitizens and "Dreamers" in New York City will have access to the ballot box — and could vote in municipal elections as early as next year — after Mayor Eric Adams allowed legislation to automatically become law Sunday.

Opponents have vowed to challenge the new law, which the City Council approved a month ago. Unless a judge halts its implementation, New York City is the first major U.S. city to grant widespread municipal voting rights to noncitizens.

More than a dozen communities across the country already allow noncitizens to cast ballots in local elections, including 11 towns in Maryland and two in Vermont.

Noncitizens still wouldn't be able to vote for president or members of Congress in federal races, or in the

state elections that pick the governor, judges and legis-

The Board of Elections must now begin drawing an implementation plan by July, including voter registration rules and provisions that would create separate ballots for municipal races to prevent noncitizens from casting ballots in federal and state contests.

It's a watershed moment for the nation's most populous city, where legally documented, voting-age noncitizens make up nearly 1 in 9 of the city's 7 million voting-age inhabitants. The movement to win voting rights for noncitizens prevailed after numerous setbacks.

The measure would allow noncitizens who have been lawful permanent residents of the city for at least 30 days, as well as those authorized to work in the U.S., including "Dreamers," to help select the city's mayor, city council members, borough presidents, comptroller and public advocate.

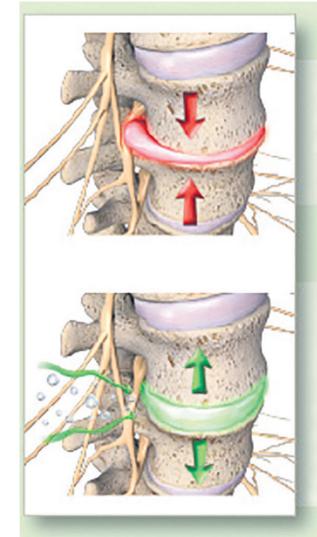
"Dreamers" are immigrants brought to the U.S. illegally as children who would benefit from the never-passed DREAM Act or the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, which allows them to remain in the country if they meet certain criteria.

Some states, including Alabama, Arizona and Florida, have adopted rules that would preempt any attempts to pass laws like the one in New York City.

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#### By Walter E Henderson, D.C.

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# Here's What People are Saying

Hi, my name is Cindy from Enfield. I suffer from chronic back pain. I've done everything from surgery to cortisone shots to physical therapy. Nothing worked, I was miserable and couldn't work or sleep because of the pain. I read this article in the newspaper about this machine that can give me relief as well as give my life back. When I met with Dr. Henderson for the first time, I could barely walk without crying. He told me he could help me. I had nothing to lose at this point, I started treatments and it was the best decision I ever made. I can walk. I am back to work and I got my life back thanks to Dr. Henderson. I would recommend anyone with chronic pain to try this treatment. It works, I am living proof of that. I lost all my hope, then there was my miracle. Thanks Doc. C.F., Enfield, CT

I have suffered with sciatic leg pain for over three years. Every morning I would wake up with left leg and foot pain. The first treatment gave me relief and after a few more treatments my leg pain was practically gone.

T.C., Simsbury, CT

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Denise, adopted 17-year-old Amina



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#### **WORLD & NATION**

**NEWS BRIEFING** 

# **US flight cancellations** continue to snowball due to weather, virus

From news services

Airlines canceled thousands more flights in recent days as the industry tried to move past its holiday hang-

Bad weather and coronavirus outbreaks among workers continued to disrupt schedules across the United States, but airlines have also called off many recent flights, in advance, so they can correct course at a traditionally slow time for travel without surprising customers with last-minute cancellations.

About 5,000 flights were canceled from Friday through Sunday, according to FlightAware, a data tracking service, with the daily number of cuts declining steadily over that period.

Southwest Airlines suspended over 1,000 flights, more than any other carrier. SkyWest Airlines, which operates flights for several major carriers, and United Airlines each canceled more than 500 flights.

The turmoil began before Christmas, caused by bad weather in the West and staff shortages because of virus outbreaks among employees. Snowfall in the Northeast continued to wreak havoc at major airport hubs across the country into the first weekend of this month.

"Given the ongoing surge in COVID cases and related sick calls, we've been working with each of our major partners to proactively reduce our January schedules," SkyWest said.

The airline operates flights for United, Delta Air Lines, American Airlines and Alaska Airlines.

After canceling flights at high rates over the holidays, JetBlue Airways said it would preemptively cut about 1,300 flights in the first half of January. Alaska said

about 1 in 10 flights planned for the month to gain "the flexibility and capacity needed to reset."

As in many other industries, airlines are also contending with workers calling in sick at high rates as the omicron virus variant

To deal with staffing shortages, many carriers have started offering extra pay to those who were otherwise not scheduled to work.

AOC tests positive:  $\ensuremath{\mathrm{New}}$ York Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez has tested positive for COVID-19 and "is experiencing symptoms and recovering at home," her office said in a statement Sunday evening.

The Democratic congresswoman's office said Ocasio-Cortez received a booster in the fall, adding that she "encourages everyone to get their booster" and follow the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Johnson reelection: Republican U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson of Wisconsin, one of former President Donald Trump's biggest backers, announced Sunday that he will seek reelection in the battleground state, breaking his promise not to seek a third

Johnson announced his decision via email two days after a pair of Republicans with knowledge of his decision said he was close to launching a bid. Johnson has also been a leading voice in downplaying the Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol riot and the coronavirus pandemic.

Johnson, 66, had long said his preference was to serve just two terms and pledged in 2016 not to run a third

But Johnson rescinded



Pope Francis with one of 16 babies he baptized Sunday in the Sistine Chapel. The decades-old tradition was interrupted last year by the pandemic. In 1981, Pope John Paul II began the tradition by baptizing children whose parents are Holy See employees. Since 1983, the ceremony has been held in the Sistine Chapel. SIMONE RISOLUTI/DIVISIONE PRODUZIONE FOTOGRAFICA

announcing his reelection bid, saying circumstances have changed after Democrats won the White House and control of Congress.

Wisconsin ice rescue: Authorities rescued 27 people from a floating chunk of ice that broke away from shore in the bay of Green Bay in eastern Wisconsin, the sheriff's office said

No injuries were reported in the incident that happened Saturday north of Green Bay, in the arm that's part of Lake Michigan, the Brown County Sheriff's Office reported. Many of the 27 people rescued were ice fishing at the time of the

Authorities said the stranded people were on the ice for about 90 minutes.

Gas prices drop: The average U.S. price of regular-grade gasoline dropped 2 cents over the past three weeks to \$3.39 per gallon.

Industry analyst Trilby

Lundberg of the Lundberg Survey said Sunday that prices at the pump could start increasing again because crude oil costs are

Nationwide, the highest average price for regular-grade gas is in the San Francisco Bay Area, at \$4.74 per gallon. The lowest average is in Houston, at \$2.79 per gallon.

Omicron in China: The major port of Tianjin may be facing China's first outbreak of omicron of any size, less than four weeks before the Winter Olympics open in nearby Beijing.

The city began mass testing of its 14 million residents Sunday after a cluster of 20 children and adults tested positive for COVID-19, including at least two with the omicron variant.

China has stepped up its zero tolerance strategy in the run-up to the Olympics, which open Feb. 4. The Chinese capital is 70 miles northwest of Tianjin and many people regularly travel back and forth by car or on a high-speed rail link that takes less than one hour.

Brazil cliff collapse: The death toll from an accident in which a slab of cliff rock toppled onto pleasure boaters on a Brazilian lake has risen to 10, police said

Police Chief Marcos Pimenta said there was a possibility that some people were missing following the accident Saturday in Minas Gerais state. At least 32 people were injured, though most were released from hospitals by Saturday evening.

Officials suggested the wall coming loose could have been related to heavy rains recently that caused flooding in the state and forced almost 17,000 people out of their homes.

Saudi princess released: A Saudi princess, a critic of her country's government who was jailed nearly three years ago after publicly questioning government policy, has been released, a legal adviser to her family said Sunday.

The princess, Basmah bint Saud, returned home Thursday with her daughter Suhoud al-Sharif, who was imprisoned with her, according to the legal adviser, Henri Estramant.

Princess Basmah was among a number of prominent Saudi activists, dissidents and members of the royal family either jailed or put under house arrest during the rise of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

The prince has consolidated his grip on the kingdom since his father, King Salman, ascended to the throne in 2015.

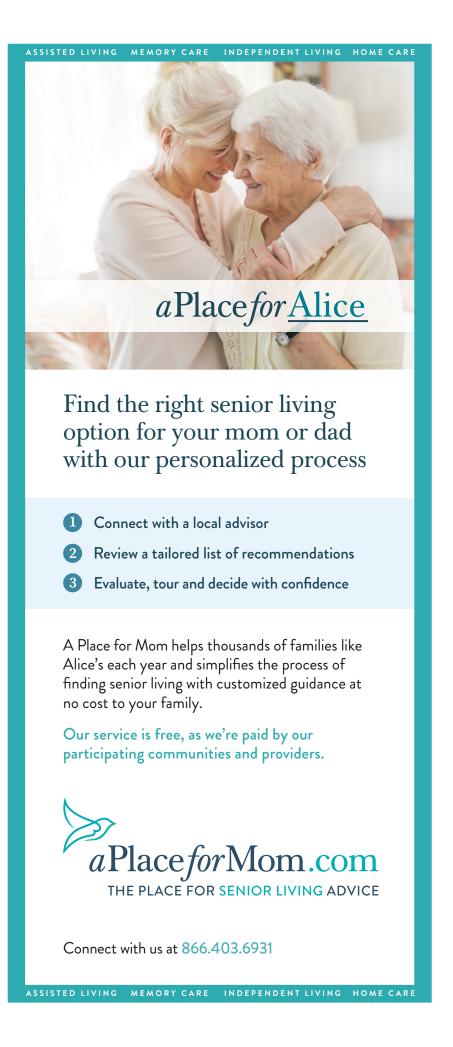
A number of prominent people, including two sons of the previous monarch, King Abdullah, remain in detention, according to their associates, and information continues to come to light about the mistreatment of some detainees.



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# Chinese activists face Beijing's fury

Trial looms after 2019 gathering of 'rights movement'

**By Chris Buckley** The New York Times

Twenty or so lawyers and activists quietly arrived at a gaudy "Nice Home Party" rental villa near the Chinese seaside. They ate takeout food, sang along to a karaoke machine and played table soccer. But they also had a serious purpose: discussing China's besieged human rights movement.

Two years after that weekend gathering in December 2019, the two best-known attendees — Xu Zhiyong and Ding Jiaxi — are awaiting trial on subversion charges related to the gathering, according to indictments. Police and prosecutors have seized on the weekend meeting to deliver a hammer blow to China's beleaguered "rights defense" movement of lawyers and activists seeking democratic change.

Get-togethers like this, once common among Chinese rights campaigners, have become increasingly risky under Xi Jinping's hard-line rule. Under him, many journals, research organizations and groups that once sustained independent-minded activists in China have been dissolved.

As he prepares to extend his era in power, those who still speak out are wondering how China's human rights movement can survive a tightening ring of monitoring, house arrest, detentions and trials.

"This shows how they're terrified of even small buds of Chinese citizen consciousness and civic society," Liu Sifang, a teacher and amateur musician who took part in the gathering, said from Los Angeles, where he now lives. He fled abroad in late 2019 after the police began detaining those who attended the villa get-together. Border police in China have blocked his



Liu Sifang in Los Angeles. Key members of the "rights defense" movement face a trial. **ALLISON ZAUCHA/THE NEW YORK TIMES** 

wife from joining him, he said.

"They don't want to allow these sprouts to survive," Liu said, "so our little gathering has been treated as a big political incident."

At a restaurant lunch on the second day of their two-day meetup, some noticed people who seemed to be watching them and taking pictures.

Several people who attended the weekend session in Xiamen, in eastern China, were soon detained, spending weeks or months locked up before release. One attendee, lawyer Chang Weiping, was detained for a second time and arrested on the charge of subversion after stating on video that interrogators had tortured him during his first stint of detention.

Xu, 48, and Ding, 54, both have told lawyers that they did nothing illegal, but they face prison terms of 10 years or even longer if a party-controlled court convicts them, as seems almost inevitable. Some experts and supporters had expected they would stand trial in late 2021. That time passed without a trial announcement, however. They still are waiting for news of a hearing, possibly in the buildup to the Winter Olympics, which start next month in Beijing

month in Beijing.

Although Western governments have focused on mass detentions of Uyghurs in the Xinjiang region, the prosecution of Xu and Ding highlights the Chinese Communist Party's intense campaign against dissent all across China. Security officials have vowed to root out any political opposition before a party congress later this year, when Xi is poised to gain another five-year term as top leader.

Xu sometimes noted with a smile that his home county in rural central China is called Minquan, which means "people's rights." In 2003, he and two other Peking University law school classmates shot to prominence through a successful campaign to abolish a widely despised detention system used against migrant workers in Chinese cities

In the following decade, he and other activist lawyers sought to awaken citizen initiative and expand rights by taking up cases that exposed the failings of China's legal system: farmers whose land had been confiscated, prisoners who claimed torture and concocted testimony by the police, and aggrieved citizens detained in informal jails for trying to take their complaints to officials in Beijing.

"We must find a way to grow political forces that exist outside the system," he wrote in "A Beautiful China," a manifesto of his beliefs. The way forward, he said, was to find ways for independent social groups to "grow in the gaps of the autocratic system."

By 2012, Ding, an engineer turned successful commercial lawyer, had joined the cause.

He and Xu turned to promoting a "New Citizens' Movement," which encouraged Chinese people to exercise the rights given lip service in China's constitution: to association, free speech and a say in government. Xu was the theorist of the cause, while Ding tended to focus on meeting supporters

Ding and Xu seemed hopeful at first that Xi's government would be no harsher than his predecessor. But they were detained in 2013 after promoting an open letter urging China's most powerful officials to disclose their wealth. They were convicted in 2014, when Xu received a prison sentence of four years and

Ding received 3 ½ years.
In the years that follows

In the years that followed, growing numbers of rights activists and outspoken lawyers were detained, and some sentenced to prison. Still, after their release in 2017, Xu and Ding quietly renewed contacts with sympathizers. Even as Xi tightened political controls, Xu and Ding hoped party rule was more brittle than many outsiders believed.

"They just wanted to keep alive the movement," Teng Biao, a Chinese human rights lawyer and a longtime friend of Xu's

In 2018, Xu, Ding and likeminded individuals in Shandong province, in eastern China, to relax and discuss their cause.

When they gathered a year later in the Xiamen villa, nobody there noticed anything alarming, said Liu, the songwriter who attended.

Participants thought they had temporarily shaken the police officers assigned to watch them. But they were still found out.

Eighteen days later, the detentions began.

Those rounded up included Ding, who later told his lawyer that investigators forced him to stay awake by constantly showing him an adulatory documentary about China's leader, Xi, at an earsplitting volume for 10 days and nights.

Xu slipped into hiding, sheltered for a time by a former prosecutor in southern China. By then, the COVID outbreak was spreading across China, stirring anger that the government had not acted sooner to stifle infections. From hiding, Xu issued a letter urging Xi to step down, arguing that he was trying to "defy the tide of history."

He was arrested in February 2020. His girlfriend, Li Qiaochu, who spoke out about Xi's treatment and her own secretive detention, was detained again and formally arrested last year.



A crane loads a military truck, which was burned during last week's clashes with protesters, onto a big rig's platform Sunday in Almaty, Kazakhstan.  $\mbox{VLADIMIRTRETYAKOV/NUR.KZ}$ 

# Death toll from Kazakhstan unrest hits 164, officials say

By Jim Heintz Associated Press

MOSCOW — Kazakhstan authorities said Sunday that 164 people were killed in a week of protests that marked the worst unrest since the former Soviet republic gained indepen-

dence 30 years ago.

The office of President
Kassym-Jomart Tokayev
said order has been restored
in the Central Asian country and that the government
has regained control of all
buildings that were taken
over by the protesters.

Some of the buildings were set on fire.

Sporadic gunfire was heard Sunday in Almaty, the largest city in Kazakhstan, according to the Russian TV station Mir-24, but it was unclear whether those were warning shots by law enforcement.

Tokayev said Friday he had authorized a shoot-to-kill order for police and the military to restore order.

The demonstrations, which began in the western part of Kazakhstan, began Jan. 2. over a sharp rise in fuel prices and spread throughout the country, apparently reflecting wider

discontent with the authoritarian government. They prompted a Russia-led military alliance to send troops to the country.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken called Tokayev's order "something I resolutely reject."

"The shoot-to-kill order, to the extent it exists, is wrong and should be rescinded," he said Sunday on ABC's "This Week."

The same party has ruled Kazakhstan since it gained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991.

Anyone aspiring to oppose the government has either been repressed, sidelined, or co-opted, amid widespread economic hardship despite the country's enormous reserves of oil, natural gas, uranium and minerals.

About 5,800 people were detained during the unrest, Tokayev's office said.

The death toll of 164, reported by the state news channel Khabar-24 and citing the Health Ministry, was a significant increase from previously announced totals. It was unclear if that number referred only to civilians or if law enforcement deaths were included.

Kazakh authorities said earlier Sunday that 16 members of the police or national guard had been killed.

The ministry said 103 of the deaths occurred in Almaty, and Kazakhstan's ombudswoman for children's rights said three of those killed were minors, including a 4-year-old girl.

The ministry earlier reported more than 2,200 people sought treatment for injuries, and the Interior Ministry said about 1,300 security officers were injured.

Almaty's airport, which had been taken over by protesters last week, remained closed but was expected to resume operations Monday.

Tokayev said the demonstrations were instigated by "terrorists" with foreign backing, although the protests have shown no obvious leaders or organization. Sunday's statement from his office said the detentions included "a sizable number of foreign nationals," but gave no details.

It was unclear how many of those detained remained in custody.

**BOB SAGET** 1956-2022

# Comedian rose to fame on TV's 'Full House'

By Lynn Elber Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Bob Saget, the actor-comedian known for his role as beloved single dad Danny Tanner on the sitcom "Full House" and as the wisecracking host of "America's Funniest Home Videos," has died, according to authorities in Florida. He was 65.

The Orange County, Florida, sheriff's office was called Sunday about an "unresponsive man" in a hotel room at the Ritz-Carlton in Orlando, according to a sheriff's statement on Twitter.

"The man was identified as Robert Saget" and death was pronounced at the scene, the statement said, adding that detectives found "no signs of foul play or drug use in this case."

Saget was in Florida as part of his "I Don't Do Negative Comedy Tour," according to his Twitter feed.

Fellow comedians and friends praised Saget not only for his wit, but his kindness.

"I am broken. I am gutted.



Comedian and actor Bob Saget, known for his role in "Full House," died in Orlando, Florida. **MIKE COPPOLA/GETTY** 

I am in complete and utter shock. I will never ever have another friend like him," wrote John Stamos, who co-starred with Saget on "Full House." "I love you so much, Bobby."

Norman Lear, who called Saget a close friend, wrote the comedian "was as lovely a human as he was funny. And to my mind, he was hilarious."

Saget played squeaky

clean Danny Tanner, a widower and father to three girls, on "Full House," the ABC sitcom that debuted in 1987.

Saget showed his flip side with what become a muchtalked-about cameo in the 2005 documentary "The Aristocrats" — in which 100 comics riffed on the world's dirtiest joke — that revealed his notoriously filthy sense of humor.



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**Helen Bennett Executive Editor** hbennett@courant.com

# PINION

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#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Where do leaders stand on Jan. 6 insurrection?

Jan. 6 marks the anniversary of the deadliest insurrection in United States history. Now is the time to take measure of our nation's political leaders to judge the country's risk of — and tolerance for – another domestic terrorist attack on our government. After 9/11, President George Bush famously said: "Either you are with us or you are with the terrorists." The same rhetoric is relevant today.

FBI Director Christopher Wray has described the insurrection as domestic terrorism. The judicial branch has spent nearly a year adjudicating the cases of almost 775 individuals who were engaged in the insurrection. The legislative branch promptly began hearings.

On the other hand, Rep. Andrew Clyde astonishingly referred to the presence of rioters, tear gas, blaring sirens, shattered windows, and numerous casualties as a normal "tourist visit." So where do our leaders stand? Are they willing to condemn the fateful event as the terrorist attack almost everyone witnessed live or through the thousands of replayed video feeds? Or will some continue to prosecute the delusion that the horrific event that unfolded was simply part of a normal exercise of domestic tourism, and not domestic terrorism?

Peter A. Antonucci, Ridgefield

#### **Support teachers: Put more protections** in place at schools

Urgent action is needed to protect students, staff and their families. The state's plan to return to school without additional safety measures is misguided. I refuse to believe the people making these decisions have considered the facts, for if they had, they are choosing to condemn students/staff and their family to illness and worse. It is understandably hard to stay on top of the latest scientific studies related to COVID-19, but when lives are at stake, it is too important to be uninformed. In the past two weeks, the following information has come out of the NIH, Cedars-Sinai, and the FDA: The virus is still present and active in almost every organ system, hundreds of days after infection. It shows the continued generation of autoantibodies months after infection. That means chronic illnesses.

Stand in support of your teachers' union request to put more protections in place before sending students back to school. Every infection prevented is a life changed for the better.

**Courtney Phillips, Wethersfield** 

#### Biden is ruining this country

I don't know if Americans can endure more years with Joe Biden as president. In the year that he has been in office, Biden has done more to ruin this country than any president in history. His doctors have given him a clean bill of health, but for some reason they did not include his cognitive ability in the tests. A list of Biden's failures includes: Leaving Americans behind in Afghanistan; Proposing trillion dollar bills that could bankrupt our country; Allowing millions of undocumented immigrants to enter America. This, in the hope of gathering a few thousand votes in the upcoming election.

We could easily eradicate this ploy by making all Americans produce a legal ID (preferably with a photo) before being allowed to vote. While we are discussing voting, maybe we should take up the topic of absentee ballots, which caused problems in the last election. Perhaps getting an absentee ballot should be limited to those unable to drive to the polls, the physically disabled, the ill or those

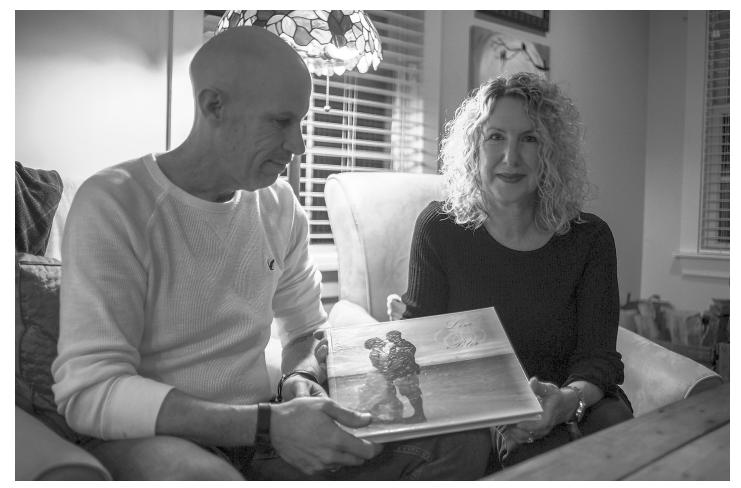
on vacation. John Mills, Bristol

#### Another power play by Democrats

The Democrats want to ram the so-called and draconian "John Lewis Voting Rights Act" through Congress with no debate, which is why "Schumer says Senate to vote on filibuster rules changes" [Page 4,

Is not the Democrats' proposed federal seizure of the 50 states' Constitutional authority to manage their own elections, draw their own Congressional districts, maintain voter ID laws, scrutinize their voter registration lists in accordance with existing federal law, and prevent partisan goons from intimidating or hectoring voters enough reason to hold this bill up for honest debate by preserving the filibuster? Or is this simply another political smash-andgrab power play?

John Carey, West Hartford



Peter and Lisa Marshall hold their wedding album and sit for a portrait in their living room of their home on Dec. 6, 2019, in Andover. The couple remarried in 2021, two years after Peter was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's. COURANT FILE PHOTO

# This love story offered a moving glimpse at scourge of Alzheimer's

Many in Connecticut and beyond were taken by the story of Peter Marshall.

We were captivated by the love story he played a role in, as he remarried Lisa, his wife of 11 years, in a love-filled 2021 ceremony attended by many family members and friends.

This ceremony was special not only because it reaffirmed the couple's love, as they danced and kissed like any delighted pair might do, but also because it took place two years after Peter Marshall was diag-

nosed with early-onset Alzheimer's.
"It was just magical — straight out of a fairy tale," Lisa Marshall told The Washington Post after the wedding.

Lisa Marshall also told The Post she had decided her mantra would be not to have regrets. She lived this as she worked to give her husband "a beautiful life" from the beginning, through when he asked her to marry him — not recalling that they already were married — and as his condition declined terribly in recent months.

It wasn't easy, as The Courant's Lori Riley reported after Marshall's recent

Rilev noted that Marshall ran the Hartford Marathon in 2016 (and a race in each of the state's 169 towns) but five years later, struggled to walk a familiar 3-mile loop. Then, Marshall couldn't walk down the stairs, and a hospital bed was installed in the front room. Hospice was there to help,

Riley reported. Riley also noted that she had known Lisa and Peter Marshall were struggling and that many days were frustrating and infuriating and exhausting for Lisa Marshall.

Lisa always wanted her husband and her life back, but she always looked at the disease through the prism that it was Alzheimer's talking or acting a certain way, not her husband, Riley reported.

While the story of the love they shared drew many to the story of the Marshalls, the couple was not alone in the struggle of coping with Alzheimer's.

According to the Alzheimer's Association, there were about 6.2 million Americans age 65 and older living with Alzheimer's dementia in 2021. Further, older Black Americans and older Hispanic Americans are about 2 and 1.5 times. respectively, as likely to have Alzheimer's or other dementias as older white Americans, the association reports, and discrimination is a barrier to Alzheimer's and dementia care.

By 2050, the number of people age 65 and older with Alzheimer's dementia "may grow to a projected 12.7 million," according to the association.

And 11 million Americans were providing unpaid care for loved ones and others with Alzheimer's and other dementias, according to the association.

That is a lot of people upon whom this terrible disease makes an impact.

But while the human impact is startling in its broadness, the financial impact also is

In 2021, Alzheimer's and other dementias were expected to cost the United States about \$355 billion, including \$239 billion in Medicare and Medicaid payments combined, the association reported. "Unless a treatment to slow, stop or prevent the disease is developed, in 2050, Alzheimer's is projected to cost more than \$1.1 trillion (in 2021 dollars)," a "dramatic rise," the association reports. Part of this is government spending under Medicare and Medicaid.

Between the human impact and the financial impact, the scourge of Alzheimer's spares few.

Lisa Marshall created a Facebook page, "Oh Hello, Alzheimer's," that told the story of living with a loved one with early-onset Alzheimer's. More than 24,000 people

On it, she is honest about her grief, "the waves. They crash in when I least expect it." she wrote.

She is honest that she is "relieved for Peter mostly, that he is no longer suffering" while also noting that he "has been gone a long time."

This honesty, along with their love story, offered the public a glimpse into the many costs Alzheimer's brings and for this we should be thankful to Lisa

It's a window that is hard to look through but one that all Americans should

OP-ED

# Cheers for first college football title of name-image-likeness era

By George F. Will The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - Monday night's national championship game is the maraschino cherry atop the sundae of postseason college football. The nation's highest-paid government employee coach Nick Saban, \$9.75 million — will lead the University of Alabama's student-athletes against their counterparts from the University of Georgia. They are coached by Kirby Smart, whose salary (\$7.13 million) ranks only fifth among Southeastern Conference coaches, but is 40 times larger

than that of Georgia's governor. The game will be watched by perhaps 20 million potential purchasers of beer and trucks and other stuff that corporations pay broadcast entities to advertise. ESPN reportedly pays about \$470 million annually under a 12-year, \$5.64 billion agreement for the right to broadcast major postseason games.

There always are, however, solemn warnings that the appeal of high-revenue college sports — football and basketball - is jeopardized by any departures from the "revered tradition of amateurism in college sports." Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens wrote those words in a 1984 case that came from the University of Oklahoma. (One of OU's wittier presidents, when a state legislator asked why the school needed more money, answered, "I would like to build a university of which the football team would be proud.") The 1984 court weakened the NCAA's grip on schools' football television arrangements, but the court's rhetoric strengthened the lucrative myth that sustains the business model of the academia-entertainment complex: Amateurism is beautiful, so don't pay the talent.

Andrew Perloff, writing in Education Next, says "student athlete" entered academia's lexicon in 1957 when a widow lost a claim for workmen's compensation death benefits from Fort Lewis A&M College for fatal injuries her husband suffered playing football. The school said the player was not an employee because the school was not in the "football business." The NCAA adopted the "student athlete" mantra, but Perloff says: "Between long daily practices, ongoing physical conditioning, and cross-country travel, playing on a team can stand in for a fulltime job."

The supposedly precious aura of amateurism is supposedly imperiled by new rules that allow those who make \$9 million coaches possible — the players — to earn a comparative pittance. Last summer, the NCAA (2019 athletics revenue: \$18.9 billion), having uneasily watched more than two dozen states pass laws to give college athletes some rights to market themselves, faced this fact of federalism: Schools in states where athletes cannot be punished for monetizing their fame will have an advantage in recruiting blue-chip prospects.

So, welcome to the NIL era: Increasingly, an athlete can earn money from his or her name, image and likeness. A few football and basketball players will benefit a lot; volleyball and field hockey players not so much. Gender disparities will energize the "equity" police. And what boosters used to do by passing cash under the table can now be done on the top of the table, which might be progress, of sorts. But if you graft a multibillion industry onto higher education, some awkwardness is unavoidable.

In most states, the highest-paid government employee is a state university football or basketball coach. Louisiana State University recently gave its (now-former) football coach Ed Orgeron — he won the national championship game just two years ago — a \$16.9 million severance payment to go away. (This was less than the \$21.45 million Auburn paid in order to fire coach Gus Malzahn in 2020.) Orgeron's replacement, Brian Kelly, was lured from Notre Dame by a contract worth \$9 million per year, plus a \$500,000 "longevity" bonus every July. Plus \$500,000 if LSU wins half of its regular-season games: Inflation has lifted the price of mediocrity.

In 2018, Georgia spent \$2.6 million recruiting players. Given the likely return — in money, and in prestige, which has monetary value — from getting the Bulldogs into Monday night's game, this was a good investment. As is Saban's compensation, which is scheduled to soon pass \$10 million per year.

Schools increasingly compete for customers, a.k.a. students, by emphasizing the college "experience." This is enhanced by decreasing academic demands: There is less studying – Education Next reports that students spent 27 hours a week on studies in 2003, down from 40 hours in the 1960s — and more grade inflation. In "The Debt Trap: How Student Loans Became a National Catastrophe," the Wall Street Journal's Josh Mitchell reports that one school's experience includes "amenities like a state-of-the-art recreation center with a climbing wall and a 'lazy river' pool complex with a 30-foot water slide. ... A campus dining hall served steak cooked to order." Which school? Roll Tide!

George F. Will writes on politics and domestic and foreign affairs for The Washington

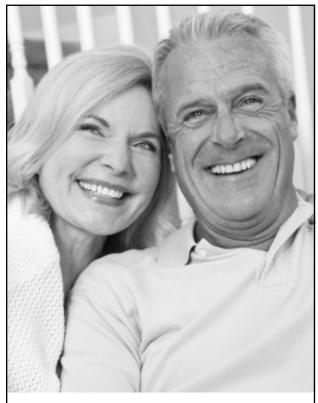
#### **OBITUARIES BY TOWN**

Avon Frederick G. Humphrey **Berlin** Ronald Matyka Canton

Frederick G. Humphrey

New Britain Ronald Matyka **OUT OF STATE** Frederick G. Humphrey Brattleboro, VT

<sup>t</sup> Denotes name listing only. Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.



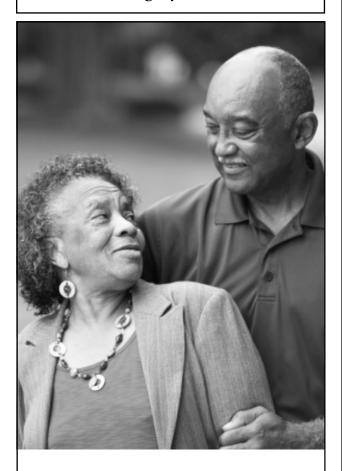
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#### **OBITUARIES**

#### **Humphrey, Frederick Griswold**



Frederick Griswold Humphrey II (known to all as "Fred"), 95, died peacefully of natural causes in Brattleboro, VT on January 5, 2022.
Fred was born on the family dairy farm in Canton Center, CT on October 28, 1926, to Genevieve Stockwell Humphrey and Harold William Humphrey. Cherry Brook Farm had been home to Humphreys for eight generations and Fred took pride in his Yankee heritage. He had two brothers, Sam and Harold, both deceased, and two sisters, Ruth (deceased), and Lucy Wong (who lives in Killingly, CT). Growing up during the depression, Fred walked or rode his pony to a one-room school house and was responsible for endless farm chores. He never forgot his rural roots. He was too young to serve in World War II but enlisted at the end of the war in the Air Force Cadets, where he was trained as an electrician. Subsequently, Fred graduated from the University of Connecticut with a degree in social work and married his high school sweetheart Dorothy Marie Peterson, a graduate of the Hartford School of Nursing.

Fred and Dot moved often in their early years together: to Philadelphia, PA, where he received his MSW from the University of Pennsylvania; Garrison, NY, where he worked as a counselor at the local Veterans' hospital; Brattleboro, VT where he was a family counselor; back to Philadelphia, where he earned an EdD at the University

from the University of Pennsylvania; Garrison, NY, where he worked as a counselor at the local Veterans' hospital; Brattleboro, VT where he was a family counselor; back to Philadelphia, where he earned an EdD at the University of Pennsylvania; then to Storrs, CT, where he was a Professor of Child Development and Family Relations at the University of Connecticut for 25 years, specializing in human sexuality. Along the way, Fred and Dot raised three children: Brian (formerly of Guilford, VT, now deceased), Heidi (Shaftsbury, VT), and Alan (Ventnor City, NJ, and Ardmore, PA). Fred loved his work and rose to become the president of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists. He also developed a thriving marriage counseling practice. After retiring from UConn in 1991, Fred and Dot moved back to Guilford, VT, just up the street from where they had lived 35 years earlier.

Fred had a lifetime love of skiing—from conquering the headwall at Tuckerman's Ravine to ski patrolling at his beloved Hogback to venturing out west to Utah. He continued to ski into his 80s. His family shared his passion and it became the reason for many family adventures. In retirement, he became a devoted volunteer and fundraiser for many nonprofit organizations, including the Vermont Land Trust, the Guilford Fire Department, the Guilford Historical Society, and the Friends of Algiers, for which he was instrumental in raising funds to acquire and renovate the Guilford Country Store. During the 1990s, he helped to establish the Guilford 4th of July celebration and often acted as master of ceremonies. He could be found on his tractor year-round, mowing during the summer and plowing during the winter, and helped out every year on his family's Christmas Tree farm in Canton Center, CT.

and often acted as master of ceremonies. He could be found on his tractor year-found, mowing during the summer and plowing during the winter, and helped out every year on his family's Christmas Tree farm in Canton Center, CT. He also enjoyed reading history, particularly books about World War II. He loved to meet new people and gab.

Fred leaves behind his loving children Alan and Heidi, their spouses Wendy Rosen Humphrey and Ben Benedict, as well as four grandchildren: Lincoln Benedict, Ian Humphrey, Margot Benedict, and Erica Humphrey, and their spouses and partners; and his special friend Mary Sargent. He was very proud of his family and enjoyed presiding over family gatherings. Three years ago, he moved from his hilltop home in Guilford to Bradley House in Brattleboro, where he received kind attention and loving care. The family is most grateful to Bradley House for providing such a welcoming home during his final years providing such a welcoming home during his final years.

Fred's memorial service will be held when we can gather safely in person.

Donations may be made in Fred's memory to Garden Path Elder Living (Bradley House), the Guilford, VT Historical Society, or the Dr. Frederick G. Humphrey Fellowship in Family Studies at the University of Connecticut.

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#### **PUBLIC NOTICES**

#### Connecticut

NOTICE OF TENTATIVE DETERMINATION STEWARDSHIP PERMIT AND THE SEPARATION OF 32.2 ACRES FROM THE MAIN SITE AT ABB INC. [AKA COMBUSTION ENGINEERING (CE), WINDSOR] 2000 DAY HILL RD, WINDSOR, CT

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) hereby gives notice that a tentative determination has been reached to issue a Stewardship Permit to ABB Inc., located at 2000 Day Hill Road, Windsor, CT, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) Sections 22a-6h, and 22a-449(c) and Section 22a-449(c)-110 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA).

The Stewardship Permit authorizes the completion of corrective actions including environmental investigation and remediation as needed. As applicable, post-closure care and maintenance as well as long-term environmental monitoring must be conducted to ensure completed corrective actions remain effective into the future. The proposed activity is not expected to adversely affect any natural resources or human health.

This represents a renewal of a previously issued Stewardship Permit. In addition, 32.2 acres at the site will be separated from the definition of the property regulated under the permit. These areas have been verified to meet the residential criteria of the Connecticut Remediation Standards and can be redeveloped for unfettered use.

A VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING will be held as follows

Applicant's Name / Address

Applicant's Contact Person:

The Public Meeting will start at 6:00 p.m.

https://ctdeep.zoom.us/j/96242504070 ABB Inc. 2000 Day Hill Road Windsor CT, 06095

Virtual Public Meeting
DEEP will host a Virtual Public meeting regarding this draft permit on February 14, 2022, starting at 6:00 p.m., and ending within one (1) hour if all questions are addressed. During the meeting the public will have an opportunity to make comments and ask questions.

Register in advance for this Virtual Public Informational meeting: https://ctdeep.zoom. us/j/96242504070. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing informa-

tion about joining the meeting.

This draft permit and fact sheet may be accessed:
• Through the Department's website: Proposed Individual Permits;
• When open, at the Public Records Center at DEEP Headquarters; or
• Contacting Jade Barber by email at jade.barber@ct.gov or by phone at (860) 424-3341.

The Commissioner will not make a final decision regarding this proposed permit until the public comment period has closed and all received comments have been evaluated and addressed.

All interested persons are invited to express their views on the tentative determination concern ing this draft permit. Verbal comments provided during the Public Meeting will be considered.

Written comments on the draft permit must be submitted no later than February 28, 2022.

Jade Barber, Environmental Analyst By email to: jade.barber@ct.gov with a copy to DEEPREMStewardship@ct.gov or if email is not possible, by US Postal Service mail to: Jade Barber, Environmental Analyst, Remediation Division Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse, 2nd Floor

CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Hartford CT 06106-5127

The State of Connecticut has authorization to administer the RCRA hazardous waste program in lieu of the federal government. Therefore, hazardous waste facilities in Connecticut, including those that have stopped operations and are undergoing environmental cleanup, are subject to and must comply with all applicable requirements found in Sections 22a-449(c)-100 through 119 and 22a-449(c)-11 of RCSA and Section 22a-449(c) of the CGS.

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to complying with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact jade.barber@ct.gov if you are seeking a communication aid or service, have limited proficiency in English, or require some other accommodation. If you wish to file an ADA or Title VI discrimination complaint, you may submit your complaint to the DEEP Office of Diversity and Equity at (860) 418-5910 or via email at deep.accommodations@ct.gov. In order to facilitate efforts to provide an accommodation, please request all accommodations as soon as possible following notice of any agency hearing,

Publication Date: January 10, 2022

Jan Michael Czeczotka, Director Remediation Division Bureau of Water Planning and Land Reuse

#### CITY OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

The second semi-annual installment of taxes on the Grand List of October 1, 2020, and the Supplemental Motor Vehicle List, were due and payable on January 1, 2022. Failure to pay any tax due January 1, 2022, on or before February 1, 2022, will cause the tax to become delinquent and subject to interest, from the due date, at the rate of 1 1/2 % per full or partial month. Any delinquent tax is subject to a minimum interest charge of two dollars (\$2.00).

Since failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the tax or, in the event of delinquency, respective penalties, taxpayers who did not receive a bill should request a duplicate from the Division of Assessment and Collection. Payments may be mailed, utilizing the envelopes included with the bills, on the city's website, www.HartfordCT.gov/tax, and in person at the Office of the Tax Collector, 550 Main Street, Room 106, Hartford, Connecticut, Monday through Wednesday between 8:15 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Thursday 8:15 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. excluding holidays.

Nancy Raich, CCMC

Nancy Raich, CCMC Tax Collector City of Hartford 1/10, 27/22 7116193

## REQUEST FOR INTEREST #03-2116

The State of Connecticut Judicial Branch, on behalf of the Office of Victim Services is soliciting responses to this Request for Interest (RFI), from qualified individuals to provide on-call services to the Gail Burns-Smith Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners (SAFE) program.

Response to this Request for Interest must be received by MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 2022. Late responses will not be accepted.

Request for Interest may be obtained at the Judicial Branch Purchasing Services web site below.

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1/10/2022 7122566

#### NOTICE OF SALE:

PURSUANT TO AN ORDER OF THE SUPERIOR COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF MIDDLESEX AT MIDDLETOWN, DATED DECEMBER 14, 2021, DOCKET NUMBER MMX-CV-21-6031792-S, SUN COMMUNITIES, INC. F/K/A JENSEN'S, INC. V CAROL BLANKENSHIP a public sale of a 1981 Burlington Mobile Manufactured Home Identification Number M-2021-HA, owned by Identification Number M-2021-HA, owned by Carol Blankenship, shall be held at 17 Grove Terrace, a/k/a Grove Beach Community, Site 057, Westbrook, Connecticut, on January 18, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Any person, including a lien holder or the owner of the mobile manufactured home park, may bid at the sale. THE SALE WILL EXTINGUISH ALL PREVIOUS OWNERSHIP AND LIEN RIGHTS. PLAINTIFF; BY ANDREA DUNN, ITS ATTORNEY, 250 STATE STREET, #D2, NORTH HAVEN, CT 06473, 203-248-6440 IIIRIS # 419633 06473, 203-248-6440, JURIS # 419633 1/7/22, 1/8/22, 1/10/22 7122892

# Statutory Reference: Conn. Gen. Statutes §19a-638 Applicant: Connecticut Children's Medical Center

Proposal: The Applicant intends to file a Certificate of Need application with the State of Connecticut Office of Health Strategy to increase its licensed bed capacity by twelve beds to establish a psychiatric/medical inpatient unit.

Project Address: 282 Washington Street, Hartford, CT 06106
Capital Expenditure: \$9.672.815

INVITATION TO BID: CT ROUTE 89 AND CT ROUTE 195 INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

INVITATION TO BID: INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

The Town of Mansfield is seeking a General Contractor for intersection improvements to CT Route 89 and CT Route 195, which is required as part of a new school being built on the existing site of the Southeast Elementary School. Bid documents including plans and project manual will be available on or after January 4, 2022. Bidders wishing to submit a proposal for this solicitation are requested to respond online through a secure E-Procurement portal. Responses can be submitted at the following link: mansfieldct.bonfirehub.com under the bid title "CT Route 89 and CT Route 195 Intersection Improvements". Bidders will be required to create a Bonfire profile before submitting their bid. Step-by-step instructions on how to register as a vendor are available at this website: Vendor Registration. Due to the bid collection change to a secure online platform, multiple copies of your bid are no longer required. Please upload one (1) copy of all required bid documentation. Qualifications and proposals will be accepted until Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at 2:00pm. Proposals received after that time will not be considered. Bidders must be pre-qualified by the Connecticut Department of Administrative Services (DAS). The Instructions to Bidders, Form of Bid, Scope of Services, and other contract documents may be examined and downloaded from the "Your Government" "RFQ, RFP, and Bid Postings" section of the Town of Mansfield website mansfieldct. gov. Bidders are advised that the contract is subject to the compliance requirements, including non-discrimination statutes and set-aside requirements. State law requires a minimum of 25% of the state-funded portion of the contract be set aside for award to subcontractors holding current certification from the Connecticut Department of Administrative Services. The contractor must demonstrate good faith effort to meet the 25% set-aside goals. A Non-Manadory Pre-Bid Meeting will be held for all prospective bidders at the gravel parking lot on the intend to bid, please notify John Carrington, Public Works Director by email at dpw@ mansfieldct.org so that you can be notified of any addendum that is issued. The Town of Mansfield hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation, and they will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin or sex, in consideration for an award. An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Minority/Women's Business Enterprises are encouraged to bid. The Town of Mansfield reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids; to waive any informality; or to accept any bid deemed in the best interests of the Town of Mansfield.

All bids shall be considered valid for a period of ninety (90) days. Charmaine Bradshaw-Hill, Director of Finance-Town of Mansfield 1/10/22 7124119

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# CONNECTICUT

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**CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT** 

# Will restaurants require vaccination?

A few do, but many fear the repercussions seen already in New York

By Susan Dunne Hartford Courant

When Gov. Ned Lamont introduced the state's digital vaccine card, he called it a tool businesses can use to keep their employees and customers safe. But as with mask wearing, Lamont declined to make proof of vaccination mandatory, as it is in some places, includ-

ing New York City. "Mandates, sometimes you just create a lot of pushback," Lamont

The Connecticut Restaurant Association, which advocates for an industry that is still reeling and vulnerable from the catastrophic effects of the coronavirus pandemic, agrees.

"Two words that hurt the industry more than anything are mandates and restrictions," said Scott Dolch, president and CEO of the CRA.

"New York City has had it for six months and they haven't seen

a rise in people coming out to eat. More like they've seen a rise in hostile fights, shouting matches, challenges. That's what a mandate does," Dolch said. "Just like mask mandate, it puts policing on the restaurant. The last thing you want is a front line hostess, 16, 17, 18 years old, dealing with someone who didn't get vaccinated and wants

That's the fear I have." Left to decide individually, most restaurants won't use the state's vaccine digital vaccine card. Bar in New Haven made headlines in

to make a scene in a restaurant....

August when it began demanding proof of vaccination, with a matching government-issued ID so no one can cheat and use someone

That policy still stands at the pizza place-brew pub-dance club. Frank Patrick, who owns Bar, could not be reached for comment.

Only a few restaurants followed suit. Red Stone Pub in Simsbury and Take Tea, the new tea room in Avon, insist all patrons be vaccinated. But both rely on the honor system. Unlike Bar, they don't demand proof.

#### **Red Stone Pub**

Marc Lubetkin owns Red Stone Pub, known for its huge bar selection, pub food and live entertainment. In August, Lubetkin announced his vaccination policy on his Facebook page and a few community chat pages.

The reaction was swift, with some supportive and many angrily opposed. One of the more civil comments was "I will no longer support this business. You made

**Turn to Restaurants,** Page 2



Western green mambas, above, and colorful panther chameleons, below, are among the animals at Riverside Reptiles Education Center in Enfield.

# Enfield reptile center growing but struggling

Lack of group visits hurting facility that opened in fall 2020

**By Susan Dunne** Hartford Courant

Reptile expert Brian Kleinman has done educational outreach out of his East Granby home since 2003. In 2019, he began building Riverside Reptiles Education Center in Enfield. When the COVID-19 pandemic struck, he was half-finished, but he soldiered on, opening in October 2020. Now, the center is open six days a week, but Kleinman is struggling like many entrepreneurs whose businesses depend on group visits.

"It's tough with schools not doing field trips yet. That is something that gets museums through the slow seasons," Kleinman said. "Many museums are hurting, and mine is no different. It was just bad timing, opening up during a pandemic."



So Buddy the Fly River turtle, Skittles the panther chameleon, Eve the king cobra, reticulated pythons Kaa, Tarzan and Jane and their herpetological buddies sit in climatically appropriate enclosures, slithering along branches and flicking their tongues, waiting for more people to come to see

He has had some luck. "We have 600 members now, and we've had 16,000 people in a year. But our pre-COVID estimate was 20 to 25,000, so we're hoping to get the

word out about us," he said.

Kleinman, a former animal curator at The Children's Museum in West Hartford, is a good steward of the 60-plus reptiles at the 13,000-square-foot center at 132 South Road. He collects animals on his own and is trusted by DEEP, UConn and the Audubon Society to take in animals they can't keep. He gets animals that were

seized because they're not legal for domestic ownership. He is bequeathed animals in owners' wills. One of his animals, a spiny lizard named Dolly, hitched a ride on a FedEx package from Texas. 'Sometimes I get calls. People say, 'I found this snake. Is it danger-

He builds enclosures with backdrops of the countries the animals are from. Sometimes he teams up compatible animals, like Simon, the rhinoceros iguana, who lives peaceably with some large tortoises.

"You have to keep an eye on that. Animals might get along or we may have to move them," he said. Kleinman keeps one tortoise away from the other tortoises. "He is younger, full of testosterone, always trying to mate or fight," he said. "He's not really a bully. He

just does what tortoises do." He feeds them what they eat in

Turn to Reptiles, Page 2

# Pandemic funeral customs are back

Omicron brings grim return of Zoom services, small crowds and masks

By Daniela Altimari Hartford Courant

Carolyn Adams of Middletown was known for her epic parties and magnanimous personality. For 42 years, she operated a furniture and home décor store on Durham's Main Street.

So when Adams died on Dec. 29, four days after her 97th birthday following what her family described as a fierce battle with COVID-19, a big crowd would have likely turned out for her funeral.

"Everybody knew her," said her daughter-in-law, Marilyn Pearson. "Probably the entire town of Durham would have come."

But in response to the enormous spike in coronavirus cases driven by the omicron variant, her family opted for a small, outdoor gathering instead.

"Because of COVID and how highly contagious it is, we just had immediate family," Pearson said. "We decided to do a celebration of her life later, in the spring, when things are hopefully better."

The pandemic has upended traditional rituals of mourning in a myriad ways, from eliminating deathbed hospital visits to replacing in-person funerals with livestream services.

The coronavirus crisis hit the industry hard, said Thomas J. Tierney, owner of John F. Tierney Funeral Home in Manchester, and many families struggled with the loss of human connection that has long been part of the grieving process.

"The first go-round was a completely new and different experience than anything we ever had," Tierney said. "It was something that caught everybody almost blind."

For funeral home operators, even mundane tasks, such as collecting death certificates from hospitals and nursing facilities and filing them at town halls, were complicated by COVID-19. (The state has begun the process of transitioning to electronic death certificates.)

'We've tried to be creative to

**Turn to Funerals,** Page 2

# Benedict Arnold's legacy reassessed in film

Was Connecticut native a villainous traitor? New movie offers context

**By Christopher Arnott** Hartford Courant

Benedict Arnold, the Connecticut native whose name has been synonymous with the word traitor for 240 years, is getting a fairer shake thanks to a new movie.

"Benedict Arnold: Hero Betrayed," a two-hour feature directed by Chris Stearn, isn't revisionist history. It doesn't lessen or ignore Arnold's switching of his allegiance from the not-yetfounded United States back to the British in 1780, or his attempt to

surrender a U.S. fort to the British. What it offers is fresh context, to counter centuries of unquestioned vilification.

The film premiered in November at Saratoga, New York (the site of one of the battles it reenacts), and is now available to rent online through Amazon, iTunes, Vudu, Roku, Vimeo, on several cable systems and through the library video service Kanopy.

"He's the original cancel culture victim," said Stearns.

"When his story is told, a lot gets left out. The evidence is lying in plain sight. He lost faith in American leadership. When people say he's a traitor, I say, 'Give me a good reason why he should have

Connecticut may be ahead of much of the rest of the country in reassessing Arnold's role in the American Revolution.

Arnold grew up in Norwich and became a prosperous businessman in New Haven; he's represented at the historical societies in both cities. For decades there have been regular costumed recreations on New Haven Green to honor Powder House Day, when Arnold demanded the keys to the gunpowder storage shed (which the city had voted to keep closed) so that he and his foot brigade could all load their guns, head to Massachusetts and join the revolution.

After numerous other examples of admirable rebellion and heroic leadership during the war, Arnold — who, the film points out, was passed over for numerous deserved promotions and assignments, and who came to perceive the new government as corrupt -"believed the American leadership was going to blow it," Stearns said.

"You don't have to give him nefarious ambitions. His motives are pretty clear. I believe he simply felt that the American experiment was not going to work," Stearns

"Benedict Arnold: Hero Betrayed" is a blend of documentarv and drama: The key roles are played by actors, famous battles are restaged and hundreds of townsfolk in period dress mill

Turn to Arnold, Page 2



Peter O'Meara stars in "Benedict Arnold: Hero Betrayed." The documentary/drama hybrid reassesses the reputation of the American Revolution icon whose name became synonymous with "traitor." TALON FILMS

#### Restaurants

from Page 1

your decision and I made mine." Other comments were so vitriolic, Lubetkin said, that the community pages took down the posts.

Lubetkin doesn't care. "Four restaurant owners congratulated me and said it was ballsy and a good idea. Another one called and raved, why would I do something so stupid," he said. "I didn't do it to be ballsy or political. It just seems like the logical thing to keep myself, my staff, my customers and my family safe. Also, I can't stand masks and I hate plastic dividers."

Lubetkin put a sign outside his restaurant about the policy. He doesn't worry about not asking for proof. Unvaccinated people are angry and shunning Red Stone, so expecting them to patronize the pub isn't realistic, he said. And new customers, glad of the policy, are showing up.

"A group of people who had never been there started coming in to show appreciation for what we did. But we lost three couples who used to come in regularly. They didn't want to get vaccinated," he said.

#### Take Tea

Take Tea, which opened this month, requires online registration to avoid food waste and to limit the clientele to 50% of capacity. The vaccination policy is clearly stated on the restaurant's website. Nann Thomson, who owns Take Tea, trusts customers to comply.

"As I try to believe the best in everyone, I rely on the word of my guests that they are feeling healthy, have not been recently exposed and are fully vaccinated before they come to tea," Thomson said. "The feedback I've gotten has been only positive, as many people are wary of dining in now. And for many this rule provides another level of comfort regarding their safety."

Thomson said her policy is grounded in her religious beliefs. "My faith requires that I be vaccinated to guard my health as well as take steps to protect others, so my family and I adhered to the message about the myriad benefits of getting vaccinated," she said.

## Most won't ask

Thomson, Lubetkin and Patrick are in the minority. Most owners don't want to insist on vaccinations.

Bryce Hardy, owner of The Charles in Wethersfield, said "for the most part everyone sees the value in what a vaccination can do for you," and strongly encourages all his employees to be vaccinated. But Hardy does not plan to exclude unvaccinated people.

"I think that our restaurant keeps our customers safe, with hand washing, masks, keeping distances. And I believe everyone does their own due diligence, taking responsibility for themselves to keep others safe," he said. "I don't think a vaccine mandate is the answer."

Billy Grant, who owns Bricco in West Hartford, said "I am vaxxed and boosted and I am all for the vaccine but I don't think we're in a position to exclude people

who aren't vaccinated."

Chris Prosperi, owner of Metro Bis in Simsbury, said traffic has dropped off considerably since the holidays so he can keep customers safe by keeping them separated at his large facility. Beyond that, he says customers are smarter now than earlier in the pandemic. "People are being very careful about what they are doing," he said.

Others pointed to the lack of a government mandate. John Pepe of Chez Estin in Hartford said he would require vaccination "only if required by the city or the state." Nikki Vinci of J. Timothy's in Plainville said "we have been following all the appropriate guidelines and will continue to do so." Heather Loranger of Locals 8 Restaurant Group, with eight locations in Hartford, Farmington, Glastonbury, Milford, Simsbury, Southington and West Hartford, said "it's not mandatory, that's our reason."

#### **New York City**

Restaurateurs' hesitation is understandable. New York City began enforcing vaccine mandates in restaurants in September. Since then, according to a poll by the New York State Restaurant Association, which got 125 responses, most restaurants have experienced negative repercussion.

More than 90% have had customer-facing challenges, such as customers refusing to dine there, hesitating to present proof, canceling events or screaming at employees.

More than 75% have had staff issues, such as workers refusing to get vaccinated and having to be placed on leave and staff being spread too thin to enforce the mandate.

A majority of respondents, 57.6%, reported business worsened significantly. Another 19.2% reported business worsened a little. Less than 7% reported business improving and 16.8% said business was the same.

Like CRA, New York's restaurant association dislikes mandates. "The mandate is a burden on an industry that cannot bear anymore. New York City must find alternatives instead of relying on already taxed business owners and their staffs," said Melissa Fleischut, president and CEO of NYSRA. "City government should work to support restaurants during this time, not continue to add to their plight."

Still, others are waiting to see how this infection spike plays out. Zach Shuman, vice president of operations and partner at The Bean Restaurant Group, which includes Union Kitchen and Wurst Haus in West Hartford, said he would comply if the town issued a mandate, but he doesn't plan to do it now.

"I'm actually kind of shocked that New York City has had it for four or five months and it's not in West Hartford yet," Shuman said. "But I think people want to watch how it turns out before making that kind of a decision. Maybe it will go down in the next two or three weeks."

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@ courant.com.

# Arnold

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around in the background of the village scenes.

But there are also shots of famous documents and museum pieces, with voiceovers from history professors such as you might hear in a History Channel program.

The narrator of the film is no less imperious a voice than Martin Sheen, the actor/activist who played a U.S. president for seven seasons of "The West Wing."

"We had dreamed about getting somebody as great as him to lend his voice," Stearns said.

The director also sings the

praises of Peter O'Meara, the actor who portrays Arnold. "He really captures what he was thinking." The production style of

"Benedict Arnold: Hero Betrayed" — part costume drama, part educational film – was "a giant decision," Stearns said.

"We could have done a straight documentary, with the historic houses and the portraits and the windowsills," he said. "But few have done more to preserve American freedom than Benedict Arnold. We had to do right by him."

That duty to Arnold's legacy includes restaging historic battles in which he showed his heroism, battles which Stearns says "hardly show up in the the history books."

"Benedict Arnold: Hero

Betrayed," the director says, is "the first movie to recreate the Battle of Ridgefield."

The film is based on the book "Benedict Arnold, Revolutionary Hero: An American Warrior Reconsidered" by James Kirby Martin. He wrote the book, Martin tells The Courant, because "I remembered hearing about this really bad guy, but I knew from my military history that he did some remarkable things.

"Here's this guy who we're being told is the essence of all evil. Now, a historian is an investigator. The key is to get into the actual records and see what really happened." Martin quickly discovered that biographies of Arnold, dating to the 1835 "Life and Treason of Benedict Arnold" by Jared Sparks, were creating a narrative that portrayed him as rotten to the core for his entire life.

"There were stories spread about how bad he was as a child," Martin said, the opposite of the "I cannot tell a lie" tale that historians would apply to George Washington.

The instinctive demonization of Benedict Arnold continues today, Martin points out. When the site of Arnold's New Haven home (now the parking lot of the city's High School in the Community) was excavated last year, a tunnel was discovered under the foundation.

"Immediately," Martin said with a sigh, "there was a theory that he was smuggling goods from the harbor. They jumped to the conclusion that he was this horrible criminal. But let me give you the name of another big smuggler of that time: John Hancock, the biggest name on the Declaration of Independence." The revolutionaries would smuggle goods as a political protest because they disagreed with the British taxation policies, Martin said. "Arnold built that home in 1774 or '75. He hardly lived there. If he built a tunnel, he didn't need to. But imaginations run wild.

"What has happened with Arnold is that historians have looked backward at his life. They start with treason, then want to prove that he always had a weak character. Every good historian, though, knows you begin a story at the beginning.'

The "Benedict Arnold: Hero Betrayed" film begins at the beginning, with the once-powerful Arnold family s fall from grace in Norwich, when they lost wealth and power in the community.

As for the ending, Martin argues that by 1780, the Revolutionary cause "was moribund. It had gone inactive. When Arnold gets back to the British empire, his original allegiance, George Washington and others saw the propaganda value in this: 'You're not Benedict Arnold. Join us." The film shows historical examples of Arnold being portrayed not as disillusioned but as the personification of evil. A 1780 political cartoon shows a literally two-faced Arnold riding in a horse

wagon alongside the devil, who's shaking a bag of money at one of the faces.

"Benedict Arnold: Hero Betrayed" quotes Arnold's own published writings explaining his decision to switch allegiances: "I was only solicitous to accomplish an event of decisive importance and prevent as much as possible in the accomplishment of it the effusion of blood. Reunion with the British Empire is the best and only means to dry up the streams of misery that have deluged this country."

Martin and the many other historians quoted in the film make clear that Arnold wasn't alone in losing trust in the incipient American leadership. They argue that his traitorous plan to surrender the fort at West Point to the British would not have changed the course of the Revolutionary War.

The film quotes Bill Stanley, a former director of the Norwich Historical Society who died in 2010 and a longtime champion of Arnold: "In many respects, America more betrayed Benedict Arnold than Arnold betrayed America."

The big question, Martin suggests, is, "How did this man who contributed so much to the American cause, destroy his own reputation while in his mind he was trying to do the right thing? It is a noble but tragic story."

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnott@ courant.com.

#### **Funerals**

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help people through these dire times," said Diana Duksa Kurz, who owns funeral homes in Newington and New Britain.

Adjustments that once seemed novel, such as livestreaming memorial services - something that was virtually unheard of before March of 2020 — have now become common.

'We're much more prepared to meet people were they are," Tierney said. "We have different ways to help families in need, which is good, though it's a bad thing we had to find out about all of it through a pandemic."

Now, the sudden surge in cases has brought a heartbreaking sense of déjà vu.

doing things we hadn't large gatherings were

done in months," such as offering masks to mourners, said David W. MacDonald, who owns two funeral homes in Wallingford and serves as president of the Connecticut Funeral Directors Association.

MacDonald said he noticed the change in mid-December, when he had some business at a hospital. He came in through the emergency room, and "it was standing room only." He encountered the same scene when he returned a week later.

"Then, all of a sudden out of nowhere," MacDonald added, "we had two deaths caused by COVID, or connected to it, and I said

"It's not as many as in the first and second waves,, but it's definitely increasing." In the chaotic early days

"All of a sudden, we're nearly two years ago, most

emergence of the vaccines and a relaxation of government orders limiting indoor crowds, the industry returned to a semblance of normalcy. "Everybody thought we

forbidden. But with the

were getting over a hump. ... We were just hopeful," Tierney said. "Now there is a different feeling." Just before Christmas,

with COVID-19 cases already rising, Tierney reinstated a mask mandate inside his funeral home, "for our safety and the safety of the people we serve." Delaying Carolyn Adams'

memorial service until the current surge subsides was never a question for her family, especially since they saw the devastation of the virus firsthand.

Before contracting COVID-19, Adams, who loved watching the news and spoiling her dogs, was vibrant and healthy, Pearson said.

A barrier-breaker who worked as a supervisor in a lighting factory, in the late 1950s and early '60s when women factory bosses were a novelty, Adams went into business for herself in 1974. She ran the Carolyn Adams Country Barn until 2016, when she retired at 91. Adams, who had been

vaccinated, contracted the virus several weeks ago. After she was admitted to the hospital, her family couldn't visit her so they had to rely on technology to stay in touch.

It wasn't easy: "She was hard of hearing so it was difficult for her to hear us," Pearson said. "The whole thing was just horrifying."

Adams told her family she wanted to come home, and they had set everything up for her. She died on Dec.

# **Reptiles**

from Page 1

the wild, or other foods they are fond of. His prehensile-tailed skinks eat dandelion leaves and bananas. The king cobras' favorite food is other snakes. When those aren't available, they are fed shedded snakeskin stuffed with mice. His European legless lizard – which easily could be mistaken for a snake - eats calcium-encrusted cockroaches.

Kleinman has been in love with reptiles since childhood. "I am a native of Barkhamsted. The cool thing when I was young was to hang out in a mall, but the Simsbury mall was too far away, so I hung out in Tunxis State Forest," he said. "Later

I worked at Roaring Brook as an educator and wildlife rehabilitator."

He later got a degree in biology at Franklin Pierce University and began his animal-curating career. His fondness for the

creatures is obvious. He tells funny stories about them and imparts facts with a laugh and an eye toward entertainment. His three Gila monsters were used by UConn researchers to study what the monsters' tongue-flicking meant. After the study was over, the university's Gila monster-ownership permits ran out, and the trio wound up in Kleinman's care.

He loves his Gila monsters but laughs at their names. "You can tell they were named by college students.

They're Lazy Boy, Mr. McNasty and Speck," he said. His Madagascar giant

day geckos have a gross hobby — "Their favorite thing to do is to poop on the glass," he said — and are among the most popular animals at the center. "Everybody loves geckos because of the Geico gecko, but that gecko blinks. Real geckos don't blink," he said.

His favorite animals are the venomous snakes. "They're just a challenge to feed," he said. Among these are his beautiful but deadly Western green mambas. "Drop for drop, they are the most venomous snakes in the world. And they're very fast, the Ferraris of snakes," he said. "People think snakes are not very smart, but mambas are intelligent."

Kleinman is on a mission to familiarize people with reptiles because of common misconceptions.

"Some people are scared of them, especially snakes," Kleinman said. "My goal is to educate the public. These creepy creatures are an important part of our ecosystem. How can we respect and co-exist with them?"

Riverside Reptile Education Center is at 132 South Road in Enfield. It is open Tuesday to Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Monday for field trips only. Admission is \$16. \$14 for seniors, veterans and ages 3 to 11. Group rates available. riversidereptileeducationcenter.com.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

# PETS UP FOR ADOPTION



# **Parsnip**

recious Parsnip is such a love. At around 5 years old, Parsnip has a shy side, but once she's comfortable with you, she is such a cuddle bug. She has flourished into quite the sweetheart and can't wait to find someone who can love and cherish her. She would appreciate a quiet, adult home with someone who has lots of love and kindness to give. To learn more, please contact Our Companions at 860-242-9999 or email Helpline@OurCompanions.org.



## **Sweetie**

weetie needs a home. Unfortunately his owner has died, and AFOC has been asked to help. He is a 4-year-old very friendly fellow. It is traumatic for any animal when this happens. Please consider giving Sweetie a new loving and permanent home. If interested, call AFOC at 860-693-0303.

For more information or to submit a pet for adoption, please email pets@courant.com.

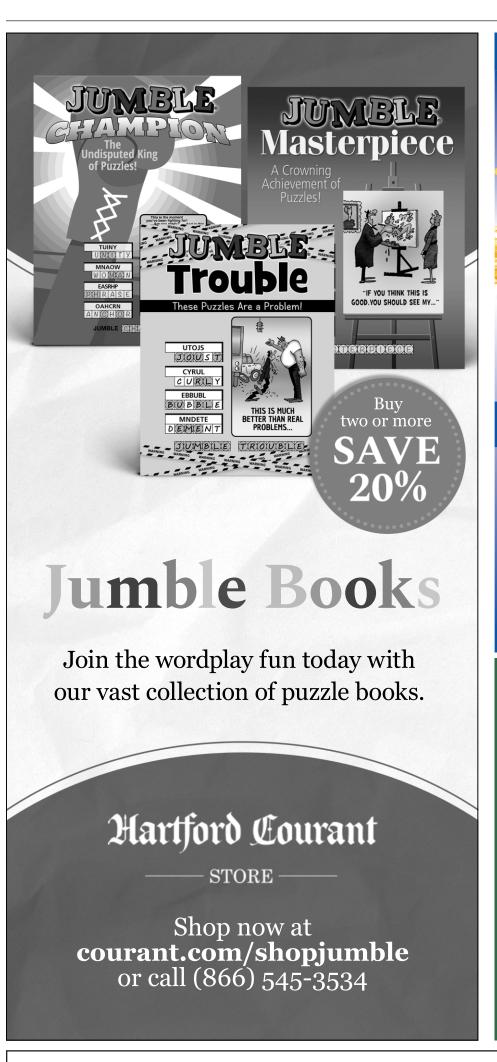
Please include a photo, a description of the pet including age and personality, and contact information including an email address and a phone number.



## **Smokey**

mokey is 2 years old and was recently rescued and gave birth to a litter of kittens, most of whom have been adopted. She came from a stressful situation and shows some residual trauma. Smokey is taking time to acclimate to her new surroundings and Cat Tales is giving her time to adjust so they can fully understand her true personality. She enjoys being petted, picked up and held, and is extremely playful. Those considering adopting her are encouraged to play with her every day and give her time to adjust to a new home. A safe, stable and caring environment will help Smokey thrive. Please come meet Smokey. No dogs. No children. If interested, go to CatTalesCT.org/cats/Smokey-4 or call 860-344-9043 or email info@CatTalesCT.org.







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SunSentinel

# NOW PLAYING Reviews of movies showing in theaters or streaming online

**'ENCANTO':** The latest Disney Animation film, "Encanto," sweeps audiences away to a colorful, enchanted world of Colombian magical realism, introducing the Madrigal family, who have each been granted extraordinary gifts, except one, our heroine, Mirabel (Stefanie Beatriz), who has yet to discover her own personal magic. The Madrigal family magic was borne out of extreme trauma and pain, when matriarch Abuela Alma (Maria Cecilia Botero) lost her husband while fleeing violence in their village. In desperation, she cried out for protection for herself and her infant triplets, and a magical candle raised mountains around a charmed casita, where she's raised her family since. Each Madrigal receives their gift in a coming-of-age ceremony, whether it's super strength, high-powered hearing, talking to animals, spinning flowers out of thin air, shape-shifting, future divining, weather controlling or food healing. The only exception to the magical rule so far is the sweet, smart Mirabel, who never received her gift, and has since felt like the family outcast, bending over backward to earn her place among them. As she starts to see cracks in the foundation of their beloved casita, Mirabel probes deeper in to the family's magic, and ultimately realizes that all of her family members are caught in the trap of perfectionism, believing that they have to use their gifts in the ways others want them to, without remaining authentic to themselves and their desires. 1:39. 3 stars. - Katie

'THE KING'S MAN': How English is "The King's

Walsh, Tribune News

Service

Man"? So English that the biggest musical flourish in the score is reserved for a scene in which someone decides whether to have a cup of tea. It's a prequel to the "Kingsman" movies that starred Taron Egerton and Samuel L. Jackson, but it's best to forget about them since this one takes place more than half a century earlier. It purports to chart the development of the secret spy agency depicted in the gleefully bloody London-set "Kingsman" films, connecting early 20th-century events such as the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, the Russian reign of terror of Rasputin and trench warfare in World War I. 2:11. 2 stars. — *Chris* Hewitt, Minneapolis Star Tribune

'LICORICE PIZZA': Gary Valentine is almost famous. This enterprising hustler parlays his demi-fame into a kind of accidentalon-purpose mystique, that of a 15-year-old LA whiz kid, with one foot in the Industry as a child actor and the other in whatever he's cooking up at the moment. "Licorice Pizza." writer-director Paul Thomas Anderson's gloriously hazy hangout of a movie, starts from the premise of this San Fernando Valley high schooler putting his idea of "the moves" on 25-yearold Alana. She works as a photographer's assistant. He first spies her when he's in line for picture day. Their queasy age difference makes Gary's ardor, in Alana's eyes, a foolish delusion. Yet Alana — as played, indelibly, by Alana Haim of the Grammynominated sisters band Haim — finds herself weirdly charmed by this boy/man. Pretty soon she's hanging out with his

friends, accompanying him as an adult chaperon on a movie promotional trip to New York, all the while vearning for her own niche in life with actual adults. 2:13. 3 1/2 stars. — Michael Phillips, Chicago Tribune

'THE LOST DAUGHTER':

Olivia Colman and Jessie Buckley never share a frame in "The Lost Daughter," since they play the same character, Leda, a literature professor and translator, at different and equally challenging ages. But for anyone who considers these two to be among our very best screen actors, as honest and exacting as they are supple and versatile, the satisfaction of seeing Colman and Buckley create different stages of the same life is enormous. Taken from Elena Ferrante's 2006 novel, first published in Italian, "The Lost Daughter" is a triumph of adaptation for writer and first-time feature director Maggie Gyllenhaal. Her film, relocating the novel's southern Italian setting to a Greek island, spins a subtle web of intrigue. Streaming on Netflix. 2:01. 4 stars. — Michael Phillips

'THE MATRIX **RESURRECTIONS**': When the Wachowski siblings, Lana and Lilly, changed the film landscape (and popular culture) forever with 1999's "The Matrix," a philosophical sci-fi film starring Keanu Reeves that questioned the very nature of existence itself, it was no surprise that the studio behind the movie, Warner Bros., asked them to make a few more. They obliged in 2003, with "The Matrix Reloaded" and "The Matrix Revolutions," though the sequels effectively killed off the idea that we'd ever hang with Neo and Trinity

again. But the powers that be will always want more, and so a sequel to the trilogy, "The Matrix Resurrections," arrives 18 years later. But this isn't just another rehash. Rather. the film asks us to question the utility of sequels, reboots and the constant churn of intellectual property, especially when the original lesson of "The Matrix" was to awaken oneself to the system and then bring the whole thing crashing down. 2:28. 3 stars. Streaming on HBO Max. - Katie Walsh

**'SING 2':** The turning point in "Sing 2" happens about 45 minutes in, when a porcupine croons a wistful version of U2's "Stuck in a Moment You Can't Get Out Of." Up until that scene, "Sing 2" has been all too much like its predecessor, a weirdly disjointed animated comedy that was sort of like if karaoke were performed by stuffed animals. A bunch of cuddly creatures, including that porcupine (voiced by Scarlett Johansson) and a koala (Matthew McConaughey), are involved in a musical competition where blandly competent singers perform versions of songs that make you wish you could hear the original performers instead. Writer/ director Garth Jennings keeps making the musical numbers bigger and bigger, including a version of space travel, and we get to hear Johansson's moody take on another U2 song, "With or Without You." 1:52. 2 ½ stars. − Katie Walsh

**'SPIDER-MAN: NO WAY HOME':** Casting Tom Holland as Peter Parker was one of the sharper decisions to emerge from the Marvel Cinematic Universe. Holland provides the glue and the webbing



Kathryn Hunter in director Joel Coen's "The Tragedy of Macbeth." APPLETV+

for the latest Spidey outing, "Spider-Man: No Way Home." Director Jon Watts and screenwriters Chris McKenna and Erik Sommers deliver an extremely busy, generally entertaining venture into the MCU multiverse of alternate timelines, competing versions of the same character and swirling trippiness. If you caught the animated and extremely deft 2018 "Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse," you'll get the idea. This film has little of that film's visual invention but a good deal of its verbal wit. 2:28. 3 stars. — Michael Phillips

'THE TRAGEDY OF **MACBETH':** The early 17th-century potboiler "The Tragedy of Macbeth" is the shortest of Shakespeare's tragedies. Director and adapter Joel Coen — working here without brother Ethan — took on this film version with his wife. Frances McDor-

mand, committed to Lady

Macbeth, opposite Denzel Washington as the ruthless warrior who lusts for the crown and goes blood simple in the process. Stripping "Macbeth" for parts, keeping the focus on the main narrative lines of political assassination and what Macbeth himself refers to as "supernatural soliciting," Coen turns out to be ideally suited to a straight-ahead, let's-geton-with-it rendition. Shot on an LA soundstage, in tight, boxy 4:3 and black and white, this 105-minute trot through a charismatic power couple's rise and fall is ripping stuff — largely because it dwells in a shadow realm where theatrical methods meet cinematic expression. In the best way, we never quite know where we are here. 1:45. 3 ½ stars. — *Michael* Phillips

**RATINGS:** The movies listed are rated according to the following key: 4 stars. excellent; 3 stars, good; 2 stars, fair; 1 star, poor.

# **CELEBRITIES**

# Wallen album most popular of 2021

From news services

New data from the music industry confirms what a lot of people long suspected – 2021 was a very good year for Morgan Wallen, Adele and vinyl.

MRC Data's year-end report, presented in collaboration with Billboard, showed that Wallen's "Dangerous: The Double Album" ended 2021 as both the top country album of the year and the most popular album across all genres, with 3.2 million equivalent album units earned during the year. That's despite Wallen being rebuked by the music industry after a video surfaced showing him using a racial slur.

Other top albums in 2021 include Olivia Rodrigo's "SOUR," Pop Smoke's 'Shoot for the Stars Aim for the Moon" and Doja Cat's "Planet Her." Dua Lipa's single "Levitating" was unstoppable, with 804.7 million on-demand audio and video streams,

the top hit of the year. Adele's album "30" arrived late last year, and she recorded the highest album sales debut in four years, with first-week sales of 839,000 equivalent units. It was the biggest selling album debut since Taylor Swift's "Reputa-

tion" in 2017. Drake's "Certified Lover Boy" was 2021's most popular rap album in the United States. with 1.97 million equivalent album units earned. Masked Wolf's "Astronaut in the Ocean" was the most consumed rap song of 2021. Bad Bunny's "El Ultimo Tour Del Mundo" was the top Latin album.

Audio on-demand streaming set a singleyear high with 988.1 billion streams. And vinyl surpassed CDs as the most sold physical format for the first time since MRC Data started measuring music sales in 1991.



Morgan Wallen's "Dangerous: The Double Album," ended 2021 as the most popular album across all genres, according to MRC Data's year-end report. EVAN AGOSTINI/INVISION 2019

Vinyl's share of physical sales accounted for less than 2% in 2011, but finished 2021 with more than half of all physical album sales, totaling 41.7 million albums.

Morrison short story to be published: To much of the world, the late Toni Morrison was a novelist, celebrated for such classics as "Beloved," "Song of Solomon" and "The Bluest

Eye." But the Nobel laureate also completed plays, poems, essays and short stories, one of which is coming out as a book on Feb. 1. "Recitatif," written by Morrison in the early 1980s and rarely seen over the following decades, follows the lives of two women from childhood to their contrasting fortunes as adults. Zadie Smith contributes an introduction and the story's audio edition is read by actor

Bahni Turpin.

"Recitatif" was included in the 1983 release "Confirmation: An Anthology of African American Women," now out of print. "Recitatif" refers to a musical expression defined by Merriam-Webster as "a rhythmically free vocal style that imitates the natural inflections of speech," a style Morrison's often suggested. The story tells of a series of encounters between Roberta and Twyla, one of whom is Black, the other white, although readers are left to guess which is which.

Jan. 10 birthdays: Singer Ronnie Hawkins is 87. Actor William Sanderson is 78. Singer Rod Stewart is 77. Musician Donald Fagen is 74. Singer Pat Benatar is 69. Singer Shawn Colvin is 66. Actor Evan Handler is 61. Singer Brad Roberts is 58. Actor Trini Alvarado is 55. Singer Brent Smith is 44. Rapper Chris Smith



# ASK AMY

**By Amy Dickinson** 

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

# Christmas Eve brings competing traditions

Dear Amy: My late first wife has a sister who hosts a Christmas Eve dinner.

I remarried after my wife's death, and three of the five boys in our blended family, ages 18 to 27, attend their aunt's dinner.

The event tends to go past 10 p.m., resulting in tired participants for our Christmas morning, as well as no Christmas Eve together for our blended family.

We asked the boys' aunt a few years ago whether she would be willing to host her event on Dec. 23, so the three sons could attend with less impact on our own Christmas.

The response was, "Absolutely not, Christmas Eve dinner is our tradition."

The three boys who attend are old enough to make their own decisions, but they have expressed that they are caught between competing Christmas Eve events (we have even had negotiations about this event in family therapy).

We do not know whether to drop it or continue to express regret about this competing annual Christmas Eve event. Your advice?

· Half a Family on Christmas Eve

Dear Half-a-Family: Many, many families split their time and attendance over various holiday celebrations. For you to have all of vour adult children with you on both Christmas Eve and the following day – is

unrealistic. You have your own blended family celebration

on Christmas Dav. I suggest that you adjust the timing of your celebration so that all of your family members can regroup on Christmas morning, and not arrive at

your home bedraggled.

This aunt's Christmas Eve tradition is longstanding, and because your sons choose to attend it, I think you should accept that — for them — this is an important aspect of their Christmas celebration. And so, you should let them have it, and instead of hosting a competing event — you and your wife should scale back your own Christmas Eve. Develop your own intimate traditions with the smaller group.

This whole issue is obviously a big sticking point with you, but if you couldn't work it out to your satisfaction in family therapy, then I'd say that the adult response would be to accept things as they are and to stop pushing.

Dear Amy: I have two grandsons that are worrying me quite a bit.

and the other a 5-year-old. Here's my concern: The 9-year-old weighs 140 pounds, and the 5-year-old weighs 80.

One child is a 9-year-old

They are both almost twice the average weight for children their ages.

How can I address my concerns for their health with my son and his wife? - Grampa

Dear Grampa: According to statistics published by the CDC (cdc.gov), the rate of childhood obesity in America is truly alarming: "In 2017-18, the prevalence of obesity was 19.3% and affected about 14.4 million children and adolescents.

Obesity prevalence was 13.4% among 2- to 5-yearolds, 20.3% among 6- to 11-year-olds, and 21.2% among 12- to 19-year-olds."

Obesity in children can lead to serious health problems, including diabetes and high cholesterol.

Yes, you should express your concern. You can start by saying, "I'm worried about the boys' weight. Have they had a wellness check this year? Did the pediatrician bring this up?"

You can expect these parents to respond defensively, but if you are open and nonjudgmental about this topic, it might inspire them to continue to talk with you about it.

Dear Amy: Thank you for publishing the question from "Underperformer," a woman whose husband was demanding that she submit to a sexual act she "hated," and who refused to kiss her because she didn't.

I was shocked when I read the question, because I could have written it.

Thank you for breaking from your usual practice of urging couples to work things out - and for telling her, point blank, to get out.

I wish I had followed this frank advice years ago — I would have been spared years of escalating abuse.

Survivor

**Dear Survivor:** The number of women responding with similar stories (well over 100), is frankly heartbreaking.

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# Zabka turned 'Cobra Kai' into comedy worth taking seriously

By Lorraine Ali Los Angeles Times

The Emmys aren't until September, but I'm kicking off the Nominate "Cobra Kai" Movement now. Now streaming, the fourth season of Netflix's martial arts series — and more pointedly its lead William Zabka — should be top contenders in the comedy categories. If I could end this paragraph with a low roundhouse kick and knee strike to drive my point home, I would.

I understand this crusade is an uphill climb. I'm advocating for the aging television academy to vote for a young adult series where teens beat up each other, and the show may as well have dropped from the sky when it debuted in 2018 and ran for two seasons on YouTube Premium. It did land a comedy series nomination last year after moving to Netflix, and its mini-mall brawls and karate championship showdowns made it stand out among kid-gloved nominees such as "Emily in Paris," "Ted Lasso" and "The Kominsky Method." Fans delighted in the ruckus and the humor, but the action may have distracted voters from "Cobra Kai's" strength as an inventive, cohesive series that over four seasons has refined its comedic rhythm like its characters have perfected their fighting skills.

At the forefront of the charge is series lead and co-executive producer William Zabka. He reprises the role of Johnny Lawrence, the rich-kid bully from the 1980s "The Karate Kid" film franchise who rivaled working-class good guy Daniel LaRusso (Ralph Macchio). Their fortunes are reversed in the TV series, where Lawrence is a divorced, often out-of-work handyman and former



Actor William Zabka reprises his role as Johnny Lawrence in the series "Cobra Kai." JEROD HARRIS/GETTY 2019

sensei of the ruthless dojo Cobra Kai. He's emotionally stunted, lacks basic social skills and has a cultural barometer that's stuck in 1985.

Johnny's glacial selfimprovement - two good deeds forward, three six-packs back - could have become a mere shtick in another performer's hands. But Zabka has craftily pushed the stubborn character to grow without forfeiting Johnny's dudelike essence. Though set in his ways, the All-Valley tournament champ is never the same from season to season, despite his penchant for Judas Priest cranked to 11 and Manwiches seasoned with beef jerky.

He is the heart and soul of the show. This season, he has conceded to work with rival LaRusso, who's now the owner of a successful car dealership - which makes Johnny both question and double down on his Strike First, No Mercy policy. The story unfolds around him with the returning cast, more original characters from the films (Thomas Griffith as the scheming Terry Silver) and new additions to the teen-

age crew (such as Dallas Dupree's Kenny). Cobra Kai, usurped by John Kreese (Martin Kove), is a threat to all that's good and noble about karate, and the series continues to draw on the themes that made the films resonate: anger versus restraint, the wealthy versus the working class, winning at all costs versus moral responsibility. Though rooted in the history of the films, the story is compelling and fresh thanks to new twists, character turns and the cunning refusal to take the '80s-era earnestness too far before making fun of it.

The drama plays out in the San Fernando Valley, from the tony hills of Encino where the LaRussos live, including daughter Amanda (Courtney Henggeler), to the flats of Reseda, where Johnny and his mentee Miguel (Xolo Mariduena) live in an unironic rundown mid-century apartment complex. The teens are destined to repeat the mistakes of their parents if something, or someone, doesn't change their ways.

And so we're back at Zabka. As Johnny, he's still trying to survive financially after the duplicitous Kreese stole his doio. and is struggling to keep up with a world that's changed drastically over his lifetime. He's growing ever so slowly with each new sober experience, so forgive him if he stumbles over pronouns and thinks "gender fluid" is a sports drink. Zabka is masterful in setting off tiny light bulbs of promise and progress inside an otherwise hardheaded and seemingly hopeless case. He subtly makes the case that guys who eat 7-Eleven hot dogs for breakfast deserve love and respect too.

Thanks largely to Zabka, "Cobra Kai" is a comedy that needs to be taken seriously.

# **HOROSCOPES**

Aries (March 21-April 19): Spend time alone today. While you can work successfully toward your goals, you might be better off first ensuring that they're truly your goals and not someone else's idea of success that you've picked up along the way.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Inaccurate ideas about the world could be holding you back! Your friends may be able to give you a necessary nudge to move forward. The fear of making a dramatic break from your past could have prevented you from going there in the past, but you don't need to make a big display.

Gemini (May 21-June **20):** Excitement about an in-progress collaboration on a personal goal could fill your heart at this time, and it might be hard for you to stop yourself from telling everyone you know all about it. However, you might be better off giving

your project the space it

needs to develop.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Your longing for adventure may be more powerful at the moment. Someone else in your life could be very happy to provide you with perhaps more direction than you want. However, even their less helpful suggestions can at least remind you of what doesn't interest you!

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Any efforts to explore a fascinating investment opportunity may be stymied by authority figures or bureaucratic processes at this time. Still, try to keep in mind that they could actually be looking out for you! The little details could trip you up if you aren't careful.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You may really idealize someone in your life right now, but trying to hold on to them too tightly could push them away. While this person might have great qualities, focus on the good things that they bring out in you. Their influence may allow you to explore your intellectual side more than usual.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Though others you live with may drive you crazy, try to think of disruptions as excess energy that needs an outlet rather than attempts to ruin your life. If you make an effort to look at the situation in an intuitive way, you may see what some underlying requirements are.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Talking to someone else about a creative idea you have brewing may be helpful. While you might feel that they're overly picky about the details, you probably should be able to answer some of their questions, at least to yourself, in order to move forward with the project.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Visions of a home makeover may be swirling in your head! While becoming aware of what you can afford could seem to throw a wet blanket on your fun, this constraint may ultimately give you enough focus to plan a plausible project that you'll actually be able to get done.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You may want to avoid getting pinned down to a particular position, whether it's because you're trying to keep your options open or because you're attempting to remain friends with people on multiple sides of a controversial topic. Don't take it too far. Plot your next move.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): The way you currently handle money may look unstructured, but you might actually have clearer underlying logic than you let on. This isn't a bad thing - as long as you're aware of what that logic is. Secrets you keep from yourself have the potential to be used against you.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Your friends may be a dominant presence in your life at this time, and you might be grateful for the direction they provide. Even if your own identity feels a little vague these days, you could wind up discovering what you want. Embrace them even if they are awkward.

# TODAY IN **HISTORY**

**Associated Press** 

On Jan. 10, 1776, Thomas Paine published "Common Sense," which argued for American independence.

In 1870, John D. Rockefeller incorporated Standard Oil.

In 1920, the League of Nations was established as the Treaty of Versailles went into effect.

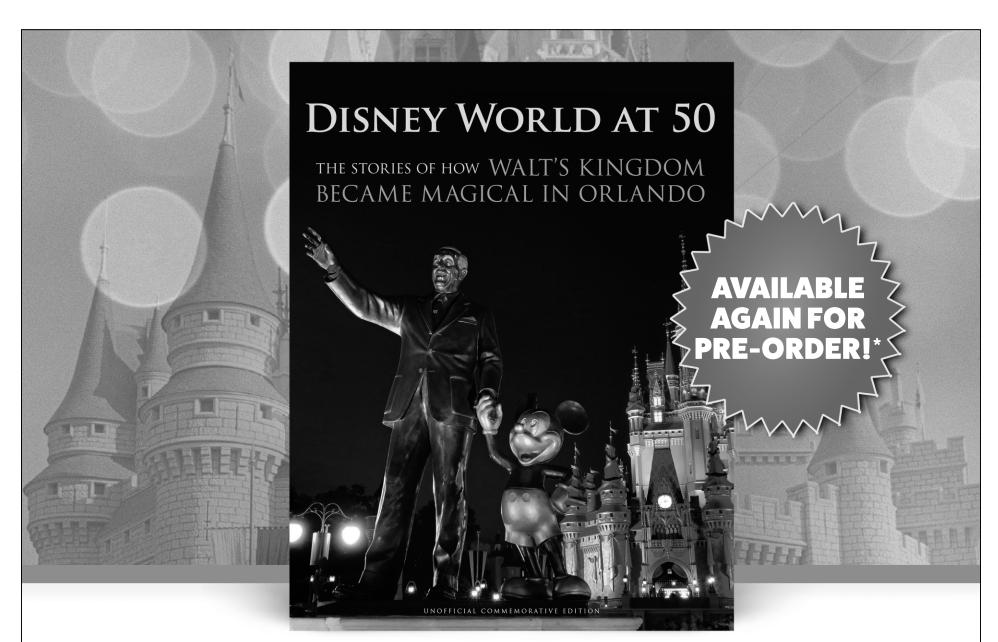
In 1967, Massachusetts Republican Edward W. Brooke, the first Black person elected to the U.S. Senate by popular vote, took his seat.

In 1971, French fashion designer Coco Chanel died in Paris at age 87.

In 2002, Marines began flying al-Qaida prisoners in Afghanistan to a U.S. base at Guantanamo Bay.

In 2003, North Korea withdrew from a global treaty barring it from making nuclear weapons.

In 2007, the Democratic-controlled House voted 315-116 to increase the federal minimum wage to \$7.25 an hour.



# Disney World at 50

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#### **Peanuts** By Charles M. Schulz









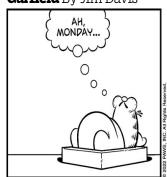
**Classic Doonesbury** By Garry Trudeau







**Garfield** By Jim Davis











**Dustin** By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker



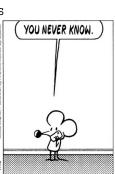




**Pearls Before Swine** By Stephan Pastis





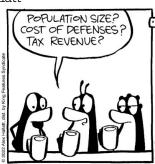






Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt







Jump Start By Robb Armstrong

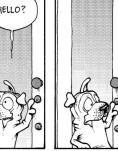


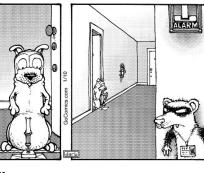


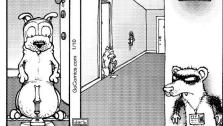


**Get Fuzzy** By Darby Conley









**Blondie** By Dean Young and John Marshall WHOA!







**Dilbert** By Scott Adams





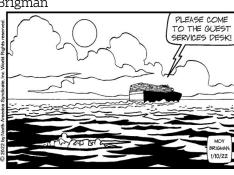


Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin



Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman





Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty





**Judge Parker** By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley

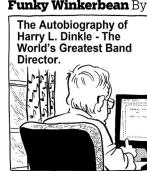




**Baldo** By Cantu and Castellanos



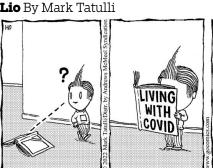
**an** By Tom Batiuk







**Lio** By Mark Tatulli







Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker



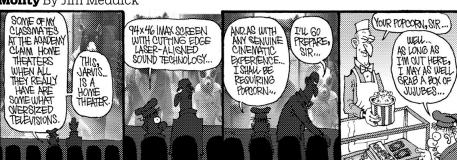




**Rhymes With Orange** By Hilary Price



**Monty** By Jim Meddick



#### For Better Or For Worse By Lynn Johnston









**B.C.** By Hart





**Beetle Bailey** by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker







Hi & Lois By Greg and Brian Walker and Chance Browne





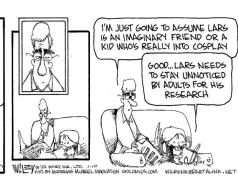
Hagar The Horrible By Chris Browne





Non Sequitur By Wiley Miller





Curtis By Ray Billingsley

















**Zits** By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman







THERE ARE

TIMES WHEN

A KITTEN WAKES UP

ON THE

WRONG SIDE

OF BALANCE

AND GRACE!

Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady and Don Wimmer







#### EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

#### Across

- It may be acute, obtuse or right
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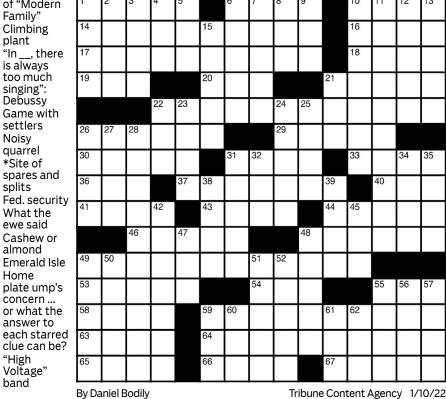
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Second-string

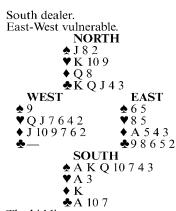
The "A" in James

- 60 Pampering,
- initially 61 UFO crew
- Drummer
- Starkey, son of Ringo



## **BRIDGE**

BY STEVE BECKER



The bidding:									
South	West	North	East						
2 📤	2 ♥	3 🍁	Pass						
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♥	Pass						
4 NT	Pass	5 🙅	Pass						
6 ♠									
Opening lead — jack of diamonds.									

This deal contributed substantially to the victory by a U.S. team over Pakistan in the final of the 1986 world championship.

**Famous hand** 

When the hand was first played, with a Pakistani pair sitting North-South, the bidding went as shown. South's two-club opening was strong and artificial, after which the bidding was natural, except for North's cue-bid of hearts at his second turn. When Blackwood revealed that North had no aces, South settled for a small slam in spades.

East, Robert Lipsitz, won the opening diamond lead with the ace and guickly concluded that his side's best - and probably only — chance to defeat the slam was to find his partner with a void in clubs. So he returned a club at trick two and was delighted to see West ruff for down one.

The deal seemed headed for an identical result at the second table when the American North-South pair also reached

six spades. Here, however, because of a quirk in the U.S. pair's bidding methods, North bid spades first and was therefore about to become the declarer. But this development prompted West to double six spades, hoping to steer East to a club lead.

West's plan would have worked beautifully had everyone passed (and East led a club). But North, interpreting the significance of the double perfectly, wisely retreated to six notrump, a contract that was safe against any lead.

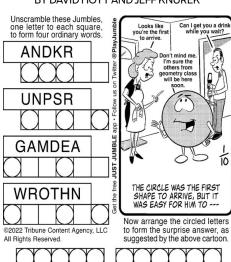
diamonds at trick one, declarer would have made all 13 tricks. The combined result of plus 990 at one

Indeed, had East not cashed the ace of

table and plus 50 at the other gave the U.S. a total gain of 1,040 points, or 14 IMPs, on the deal.

**Tomorrow:** No time to relax.

**JUMBLE** BY DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK



(Answers tomorrow) QUIRK **GECKO** INDUCT The thunder wasn't impressive being so distant, but the lightning was  $\overset{\cdot}{-}$  STRIKING

> **ANSWER TO PREVIOUS CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

# **TODAY'S SUDOKU**

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		1	4					5
		9				8		
	2	6						
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1				9	5			
	3				2	6		
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row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit **www.sudoku.org.uk** ANSWER TO 6 8 2

Complete the grid so each

#### **PREVIOUS PUZZLE** 2 6 7 1 9 4 5 8 8 1 9 7 4 6 3 2 9 2 3 8 4 3 2 4 8 5 1 6 7 4 6 8 9 5 2

#### CAPERSSKIRT USESINME ARFLAPCHANGED MARETTO DIVTIMEISUP RANATABBOOSTER IVEYNAME PASSE EUREKA

BILL

LET ME

WAIT

6RIFFITH

OH, GOD, NO!



# **BONUS PUZZLE PAGE**

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at **PlayJumble.com** 



261

#### **SUDOKU**

**BOGGLE** 

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurel

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#### \_\_\_\_4

id so each row, column and bold borders) contains every ategies on how to solve Sudoku, org.uk.

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# WordWheel



HOOK KING DAWN BISHOP KNIGHT

Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter

#### word reading clockwise or counterclockwise FORMULAE

#### **WORD SEARCH**

#### Wordsearch: copycat

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

PFTNESERPERSIMPQEA WORETODMKSCREPLICA OLANJOEAIELIMISCAF RLNNUMFMCRPRSDBNRE ROSBUHUEHLCEQURU OWLLWLQPGMAHSEGHZU BEAOALDGKAXLTSQOMD ZTTTEHUFPXMTYPI EEEDRPUZGWAIWEMNTR YKOETACILPUDMI P M C Y A R E R I D R D C W T A OQWEGGDOLIKETSAECR CPENROKCOMJPHKTR OAQOVTREPEATKEE TRFHYONNERFKITIU OORPYHKEREGNACSJPO H D P W K P N O B R A C W H C E E L P Y P R I N T M I R R O R S D L D C

**BORROW** CARBON CAST CLONE **CRIME** DEPICT **DOLIKE DOUBLE DUPLICATE** 

**EMULATE** 

copycat

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CONFAB

ASCEND

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**PATTERN PHOTOCOPY PHOTOGRAPH REPLICA** 

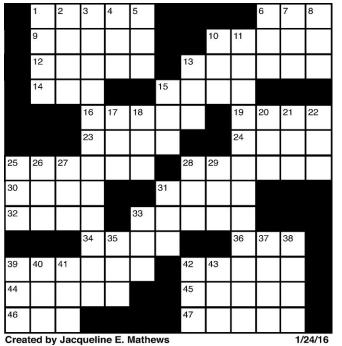
**REPRODUCE** 

SHAM SIMULATE **SKETCH** TRACE **TRANSLATE** TWIN UNREAL

**SCAN** 

#### **TV CROSSWORD**

#### by Jacqueline E. Mathews



- **ACROSS** 1 Bixby and Cullen 6 "What \_\_ to Wear"
- Look for with expectation
- 10 "The Mod 12 Praises 13 Rushmore and Everest
- 14 Jerusalem's nation: abbr.
- 15 Lucie's dad 16 Steve or Woody 19 Advice to Nanette
- 23 Prescription label info \_ But the Brave"; movie for
- Frank Sinatra "\_\_ Enemy Lines"; Gene Hackman film
- 28 Series for Leo G. Carroll
- \_\_ code; beginning of a phone number
- "Name That
- 32 Lead role on "JAG"
  33 Finch or Falk
  34 "The \_\_"; horror movie for
- Gregory Peck and Lee Remick 36 Monogram for Kareem of the



39 Brief snooze

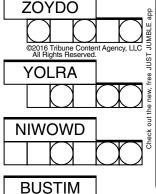
- 42 Patsy of country music
  44 Dwelling
  45 "The \_\_ Reed Show"
  46 "The \_\_ & Stimpy Show"
- 47 "Suddenly \_
- **DOWN**
- 1 "Road to \_\_"; Crosby/Hope movie
- 2 "I Didn't Know \_\_ Pregnant" 3 Debra Messing's role 4 Tupperware cover
- Easy and Wall: abbr.
- "The Flying \_ Cereal grain
  Scores for the Raiders: abbr.
- 10 Steel wool pad
- Katie Lowes' role on "Scandal"
  "Two and a Half \_\_"
- 15 Billy \_\_ Williams 17 Actor \_\_ Chaney, Jr. 18 Psychedelic drug, for short
- 20 Alley of the comic strips 21 180° from SSW the ramparts we
- watched.. 25 Word from Scrooge 26 Historical period 27 Joaquin Phoenix sci-fi romance
- movie 28 Egypt's boy king
- 29 "\_\_ Life to Live" 31 "The \_\_ Commandments"
- 33 Energy 35 Actress West
- 37 Paquin or Faris
- 38 Stapleton or Smart 39 "\_\_ 54, Where Are You?" 40 Actor Vigoda
- 41 2000 pounds 42 Music lover's purchases,
- familiarly
- 43 Ferrigno or Dobbs

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# **JUMBLE**



MODEL



HE TOLD CASPER THE GHOS HIS SECRET BECAUSE HE KNEW CASPER ---

Now arrange the circled letters

1/5/20

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon. Jumbles: DOOZY ROYAL WINDOW SHRMIT

Answer: He told Casper the ghost his secret because

## **ARROW WORDS**

A S

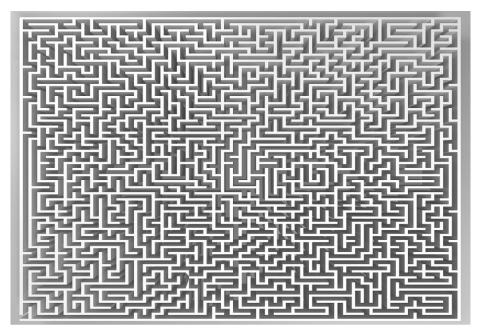
I S E

Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.

Did the Cut, maybe Non-earthline Danger Tempt Gist 1940 Hitchcoo Try for a part Sea ead movie Nanny's offspring Censure Pot starte Blood fluid Metal in rocks

#### 2 9 5

## **KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES**



## **FIND 10 DIFFERENCES**



# **SPORTS**

COURANT.COM/SPORTS

**DOLPHINS 33, PATRIOTS 24** 

# Pats, swept by Dolphins, fall short of AFC East title

By Tim Reynolds
Associated Press

MIAMI GARDENS, Fla. — They came running off the sideline after the last play, one final sprint of the season, one final moment of joy.

The Miami Dolphins aren't going to the playoffs, but they went into the offseason happy.

Jaylen Waddle had a touchdown grab and set the NFL record for receptions in a rookie year, Tua Tagovailoa used his legs — not his arm — to get a critical first down in the final moments, and the Dolphins finished their season by defeating the playoff-bound New England Patriots 33-24 on Sunday. A team that started 1-7 won eight of its last nine games, finishing 9-8.

"That just shows who we are as men and as a team," linebacker Jaelan Phillips said. "That's the story of our season. It's just perseverance."

Brandon Bolden scored two touchdowns — one rushing, one receiving — for the Patriots (10-7), who are headed to the playoffs as a wild card. But they were swept by the Dolphins for the first time since 2000 and the outcome handed the AFC East title to the Buffalo Bills, whose game against the New York Jets had not gone final when the

Patriots-Dolphins game ended. The Bills won 27-10, so the Patri-

The Bills won 27-10, so the Patriots wouldn't have won the division anyway.

"Played poorly, coached poorly, didn't do anything very well," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said. "Just too many mistakes. Way too many. We'll go look at the film, turn the page here, make some corrections and move on to next week. That's really about it."

Xavien Howard returned an interception for a touchdown and Duke Johnson rushed for 117 yards and a score for Miami, which

Turn to Patriots, Page 6



Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa runs pursued by Patriots linebacker Josh Uche in the first half Sunday in Miami Gardens, Fla. LYNNE SLADKY/AP

#### UCONN MEN'S

# Team still working to find finishing touch

By Shreyas Laddha

Do you remember "Groundhog Day"? It's a 1993 movie starring Bill Murray, who plays a weatherman who lives the same day over and over again. UConn men's basketball coach Dan Hurley must be feeling the same way watching his team unravel in close games.

UConn (10-4, 1-2 Big East) lost an overtime thriller to No. 24 Seton Hall (11-3, 2-2) 90-87 on Saturday afternoon at the Prudential Center in Newark, New Jersey.

Just 14 points in four losses separates UConn from being undefeated as Hurley said after the game. The difference between a good team and a great team is its ability to close out close games. Consistently, the Huskies have fallen apart in close games, which has fans and Hurley bewildered.

The Huskies have to take a hard look in the mirror and figure out who they are.

It's important remember, they played well Saturday, especially considering they were coming off a 17-day hiatus due to COVID-19 issues within the program.

"We didn't start playing 5-on-5 until Thursday," Hurley said. "We had guys getting out of quarantine and then practice once, then the game."

Here are five things we have learned about the Huskies so far:

# Jackson secondary ballhandler

Good things happen when Andre Jackson has the ball in his hands. Against Seton Hall, he played the role of a secondary ballhandler and often took the ball off the rebound while pushing the pace. Jackson's elite athleticism and fantastic vision lead to easy buckets for not only his teammates, but himself. His passing almost felt too good because a few times his teammates bobbled or lost the ball because they weren't quite ready for the pass. Jackson finished with 10 points, six rebounds and two assists.

**Turn to Men's,** Page 4

#### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



UConn's Christyn Williams looks to shoot under pressure from Creighton's Tatum Rembao. Williams says she can be the floor leader the Huskies need. **CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT** 

# Call goes out for leadership on team



Dom Amore

STORRS — The UConn women were back on the basketball court for the first time since Dec. 19, and the issues haven't gone away. The Huskies, unlike the men's team, did start what we all hope will be the post-COVID-19 portion of their season with a victory, beating a stubborn Creighton team at Gampel Pavilion, but there was

still a weariness in Geno Auriem-

There's a lot of forest in front of the Huskies, and they need someone who can read a compass, who knows survival skills.

"We're searching for who is going to be that individual on the court that's going to bring some sort of sense of order to what we're doing, to finish out lategame situations, to play through adversity," Auriemma said, after the 63-55 victory. "That, to me, is the most glaring thing this team has to fix. We're missing a quarterback, missing a calming influence on the floor that can put the

RisCassi & Davis

injured for more than 60 years

Protecting the rights of the

ball in the right people's hands at the right time, make a shot at the right time. Maybe we will find someone as the weeks go on."

Who are the candidates to be the glue until Paige Bueckers' return, hoped to be in mid-February? The coach paused — maybe for effect.

"Unfortunately, there isn't a single individual who you can say, 'This is who is running it,' " he said. "We generally spread the ball around so that burden doesn't fall on just one person, but, yeah, you'd like to have some-

**Turn to Amore,** Page 4

#### UCONN 63, CREIGHTON 55

# Huskies return with win

**By Alexa Philippou** Hartford Courant

STORRS — It wasn't pretty, but a win's a win.

In their first game in 21 days after an extended layoff due to COVID-19 issues, as well as their first Big East home game with fans since returning to the conference, the No. 11 UConn Huskies somewhat sloppily took down Creighton 63-55 to earn their second conference win of the season.

UConn (7-3, 2-0 Big East) remains undefeated in conference play since 2013, although this was the first time the Huskies haven't beaten a Big East team by double figures since rejoining the league. They did, however, avoid backto-back losses for the 1,033rd straight game, dating back to

Freshman Caroline Ducharme picked back up where she left off prior to the holidays, scoring at least 14 points for the fourth time in five games, finishing with a team-high 17. After scoring four points in the first four games of her career, she's averaging a team-high 14.3 points in the four-game stretch the Huskies have been without Paige Bueckers. She also showed some improvement defensively, as she recorded a team-high three blocks in addition to her five rebounds.

"I thought Caroline has done an amazing job filling in that role," said senior Christyn Williams, who had 13 points. "Today she had three blocks. She definitely had been working on her defensive efforts. I see it every day in practice. But yeah, she's a scorer. She's not afraid to shoot that thing."

Graduate student Dorka Juhász and sophomore Aaliyah Edwards scored 10 and 12, respectively. Sophomore Nika Mühl returned after missing the previous three games with a foot injury and totaled two points, two rebounds and three assists.

UConn had a solid defensive outing for the most part, which compensated for its offensive struggles: The Huskies shot 45% and just 25% from 3 while committing 16 turnovers, half of which were traveling calls. They also saw their 17-point advantage shrink to eight in the

Turn to Women's, Page 4

# Safety Tip of the Day

Does the car your new teenage driver will be using have technology like a lane departure warning system? Try to teach them how to drive defensively first before they start relying on these features.

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#### **UP NEXT**

Patriots: playoffs, TBD. UConn MBB: St. John's (Gampel), Wednesday, 8:30 p.m.; at Providence, Saturday, 2 p.m.; Butler (XL), Jan. 18, 7 p.m. UConn WBB: at Butler, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Xavier (XL), Saturday, noon; at Oregon, Jan.

Celtics: Pacers, Monday, 7:30 p.m.; at Pacers, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; at 76ers, Friday, 7 p.m. Knicks: Spurs, Monday, 7:30 p.m.; Mavericks, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.; at Hawks, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

**Nets:** at Trail Blazers, Monday, 10 p.m.; at Bulls, Wednesday, 10 p.m.; Thunder, Thursday, 8:30 p.m.

**UConn hockey:** at AIC, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; Boston Univ., Friday, 7 p.m.; New Hampshire, Jan. 21, 7 p.m.

Bruins: at Capitals, Monday, 7 p.m.; Canadiens, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Flyers, Thursday, 7 p.m. Rangers: at Kings, Monday, 10:30 p.m.; at Sharks, Thursday, 10:30 p.m.; at Flyers, Saturday, 7 p.m.

Wolf Pack: Charlotte, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; at Providence, Friday, 7 p.m.; Laval, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

#### TV/RADIO RASKETBALL

**7 p.m.:** Boston University at American. (Live) CBSSN **7 p.m.:** Bucks at Hornets. (Live) NBA

7:30 p.m.: Celtics at Pacers. (Live) NBCSB 7:30 p.m.: Spurs at Knicks. (Live) MSG 10 p.m.: Nets at Trail Blazers.

10 p.m.: Nets at Trail Blaze (Live) YES FOOTBALL

**8 p.m.:** CFP National Championship Georgia vs Alabama. (Live) ESPN **HOCKEY** 

**7 p.m.:** Bruins at Capitals. (Live) NESN **10:30 p.m.:** Rangers at Kings. (Live) MSGPlus

**TENNIS 6 a.m.:** Sydney-WTA, Adelaide
2-WTA Early Rounds. (Live)
TENNIS

**7 p.m.:** Sydney-WTA, Adelaide 2-WTA Early Rounds. (Live) TENNIS

#### REGIONAL DIGEST

# UConn skates to last-minute victory over No. 18 BC

Staff reports

HARTFORD — UConn grad student Kevin O'Neil capped a wild third period Saturday night, scoring with 34 seconds left to send the Huskies home with a 5-4 Hockey East win over 18th-ranked Boston College in Chestnut Hill. The Huskies (9-7-0, 6-40) earned their first victory at BC's Kelley Rink in 10 games (1-7-2) since joining the league.

UConn fell behind 2-0 in the second period but managed to enter the third tied 2-2 behind goals by sophomore Hudson Schandor and senior Carter Turnbull. UConn struck early in the third as sophomore Artem Shlaine scored his third goal of the season for a 3-2 lead just 1:03 in.

BC tied it on a Colby Ambrosio goal at 7:24, but a UConn power play with 5:34 to go gave the Huskies the lead again on senior Jachym Kondelik's fourth goal of the season. After just pulling the goaltender with a minute to play, BC's Patrick Giles created a breakaway chance and tied it again, 4-4, with 54 seconds to play, setting up O'Noil's lete boroics.

up O'Neil's late heroics.

The Huskies got a late rush as O'Neil broke up a BC break in the neutral zone and burst up the right side. Looking shot all the way, he buried it past Eric Dop to the far post for the

UConn win.

Niagara men top Quinnipiac: Noah Thomasson had a career-high 21 points as Niagara beat Quinnipiac in a MAAC men's basketball game Sunday in Niagara, N.Y. Niagara (6-7,1-3) totaled a season-high 53 points in the second half. Dezi Jones scored a season-high 24 points for the Bobcats (7-5, 2-2), whose four-game winning streak was broken. Matt Balanc added 14 points, and Kevin Marfo had 12 rebounds and five assists.

Fairfield loses fourth in a row: Nick Hopkins posted 19 points and eight rebounds as Siena handed Fairfield its fourth straight loss, 69-62 in Albany. Aidan Carpenter had 15 points for Siena (5-6, 2-1 MAAC). Jesus Cruz had 14 points for the Stags (8-7, 2-2). Supreme Cook added 14 points and 11 rebounds.

#### **NETS 121, SPURS 119 OT**

# Nets end 5-game home skid on Thomas' shot

By Brian Mahoney Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Brooklyn Nets just needed any home win, so they weren't about to complain when one that appeared to be coming easily almost didn't come at all.

A blown lead late in regulation resulted in five more minutes, but it finally ended with their first win at Barclays Center since Dec. 16.

"Different challenges each game, so we figure out what they are, fight through them and do better," Kevin Durant said.

Rookie Cam Thomas made a runner in the lane with 1.4 seconds left in overtime to lift the Nets past the San Antonio Spurs 121-119 on Sunday to snap a five-game home losing streak.

Durant scored 28 points for the Nets and James Harden had 26 points, 12 assists and seven rebounds. But both struggled after the Nets had a 10-point lead with 4:01 to play in regulation, and the Spurs sent it to overtime.

The Spurs made Durant give up the ball on the Nets' final possession, and he got it to Thomas.

"I just trust the work I put in," Thomas said. "I've put in a lot of work, so I'm always ready whenever KD or James kicks it to me in a situation like that."

Lonnie Walker IV scored 25 for the Spurs, while Dejounte Murray finished with 19 points, 12 assists and nine rebounds.

But the Spurs couldn't get up a good shot on the last possession of regulation or overtime in their sixth loss in seven games.

Harden's basket gave the Nets a 111-99 lead with 4:59 left in regula-



Nets guard James Harden celebrates after scoring against the Spurs on Sunday in New York. He had 26 points, 12 assists and seven rebounds. **JESSIE ALCHEH/AP** 

tion, and it still was 113-103 when Durant scored with 4:01 to play. But Brooklyn was shut out from there, with rookie Josh Primo's 3-pointer tying it for the Spurs with 40 seconds to play.

Durant missed a series of jumpers afterward, and his only basket OT was a follow shot. But he made the pass the Nets needed to end their woes at home, where they had fallen to 10-10.

 $\hbox{``If you wish and could make your'}\\$ 

wish come true, you don't want him shooting the last shot, that's for sure," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "But we let the young man go middle. A tough closeout. We needed to send him the opposite postportion of the said." The South with 4: ter before needed to send him the opposite postportion of the said. "But we let the young man go middle. A tough closeout. We needed to send him the opposite postportion of the said."

direction, so he made a tough shot."
Nic Claxton had 16 points and 14
rebounds for the Nets, who opened
a cross-country, back-to-back set
of games. They play at Portland on
Monday in a game that was originally scheduled for December but

postponed when the Nets had a coronavirus outbreak.

The Spurs had a three-point lead with 4:23 left in the second quarter before the Nets closed with a 16-4 spurt to take a 60-51 lead at halftime.

Brooklyn pushed it to 72-58 when Patty Mills made a 3-pointer against his former team, but Bryn Forbes had a good finish to the third quarter as the Spurs cut it to 91-89.

CELTICS 99, KNICKS 75 (LATE SATURDAY)

# Knicks put up unforgiveable performance

**By Steve Popper** Newsday

The apology went out Friday and the \$25,000 fine from the NBA followed Saturday, apparently putting a tidy bow on the troubles for the Knicks and Julius Randle

His anger directed at the fan base had boiled over Thursday night when he gave a thumbsdown sign and then clarified his message by telling them to "shut the [expletive] up."

Randle had said his piece to express his frustration with the reaction to his and the Knicks' play a season after he was serenaded with chants of "M-V-P" every time he touched the ball. The Knicks had fought back from the early booing Thursday to capture a buzzer-beating victory over the Celtics at Madison Square Garden, and everyone

seemed happy again.
All the Knicks needed to do was follow that momentum-gathering victory with another stellar effort in Boston on Saturday night, and the return home Monday night could present an opportunity for

both sides to kiss and make up. But the Knicks and Randle instead produced a dismal performance, scoring 49 points in the final three quarters and getting pummeled by the Celtics at TD Garden, 99-75. It marked their lowest scoring output since April 3, 2018.

If you don't recall those glory days that put the finishing touches on a 28-win season, the starting lineup included Tim Hardaway Jr., Trey Burke, Kyle O'Quinn, Frank Ntilikina and Lance Thomas. The Knicks (19-21) were shorthanded Saturday, but not to that level.

day, but not to that level.

Evan Fournier was sidelined with a thigh bruise, and the Knicks still were missing point guards Kemba Walker and Derrick Rose. Randle seemed to play with the same sort of emotional edge he did after the sluggish start Thursday, but he still struggled, shooting 6-for-19—with the six field goals matching his six turnovers.

And he wasn't alone. Immanuel Quickley stepped into a starting role, had 18 points and shot 7-for-11, but RJ Barrett (19 points) shot 33% and was 1-for-5 from the free-throw line. Alec Burks shot 2-for-11 and is 3-for-21 in the last two games.



Knicks forward Julius Randle capped off a rough week by shooting 6-for-19 Saturday night against Boston — with the six field goals matching his six turnovers. MICHAEL DWYER/AP

"I think that's just going to happen sometimes," Barrett said. "There's a lot of games during the season, and for some reason, today was that day."

The fans may forgive and forget the gesture and words of frustration from Randle — after all, in New York City, who hasn't uttered a similar phrase? — but if this sort of struggle continues, the fans might not be so gracious.

"I don't know if he was pressing," coach Tom Thibodeau said. "They loaded up on him pretty good. That was anticipated. I thought he made a number of really good plays in the first half where the defense collapsed and he sprayed it out. We got some really good quality looks from the 3. To win on the road, you have to play 48 minutes, and we didn't do that tonight."

## RED SOX

# Sox could use an outfielder, but Suzuki comes with risk

**By Jason Mastrodonato**Boston Herald

The stove is not hot in America, but in Japan, power-hitting outfielder Seiya Suzuki is in the spotlight.

During an interview with former Red Sox reliever Koji Uehara that was posted to Twitter last week, Suzuki tells Uehara he isn't sure where he'll sign in 2022 after he was posted for a transfer to MLB by his current team, the Hiroshima Toyo Carp of the Nippon Professional Baseball Organization.

But Uehara kept pushing Suzuki, asking him first where he'll sign, then flat out stating, "You're going to Boston, right?" according to a translation by a baseball YouTuber on Friday.

"No," Suzuki reportedly told Uehara. "I don't know about Boston."

While the 27-year-old hit 38 homers, one behind the league lead during the 2021 season, he comes with the risk of the unknown as the modern game continues to evolve.

The question is whether or not his upper-cut swing will remain en vogue. The all-or-nothing approach has been popular in MLB over the last few years, but we've seen signs of that fading away.

The strikeout rate actually dropped from 2020 to '21, and although the difference was less than a full percentage point, it



Outfielder Seiya Suzuki, who hit 38 homers in Japan last season, is looking for a home in the U.S. major leagues. MATT SLOCUM/AP

represented the first time the K-rate declined since '04 to '05. The league-wide contact rate also improved from '20 to '21, the first time that number has gone up since '07 to '08.

But there's unquestionable intrigue around Suzuki, who keeps popping up in rumors related to the Red Sox.

The fit makes sense. When the Sox traded Hunter Renfroe to the Brewers for Jackie Bradley Jr. and two prospects just before the lockout in December, it cleared up a roster spot for a right-handed hitting outfielder. The Sox need to replace Renfroe, who has been one of the best in baseball at crushing left-handed pitchers through-

out his career. Kiké Hernandez is the only right-handed outfielder remaining, with Bradley, Alex Verdugo and Jarren Duran all swinging it from the left-hand side.

Carlos Correa, Trevor Story and Kris Bryant are among the best right-handed hitters still available in free agency, but there's a better chance of getting hit by a stray snowball on Newbury Street than Chaim Bloom signing any of them at market value.

There are more affordable options, such as Andrew McCutchen and Jorge Soler, though they'll each be in their 30s by the time the season starts.

Suzuki is projected to sign for five years, \$55 million, plus a post-

ing fee, via MLB Trade Rumors. There's such a wide range of outcomes that it's possible it'd be a waste of money altogether and become Bloom's version of Rusney Castillo, the stain on former general manager Ben Cherington's resume, just as well as it could be Bloom's best move since finding Garrett Whitlock in the Rule 5 draft.

The numbers are impressive and have steadily gotten better since Suzuki began his professional career at 18 years old. He was a contact hitter early in his career but has turned into one of the best power hitters in Japan from 2015 to 2016, when he saw his home run totals jump from five in '15 to 29 in '16.

He also had a remarkable 87 walks, second-most in NPB, while showing improved plate discipline throughout his pro career.

Suzuki has shown the ability to hit for contact and power, with a .317 average, .433 on-base percentage and 1.072 OPS in 2021. His OPS was first in NPB. Behind him in second place was Tyler Austin, the former Yankees outfielder who had a .741 OPS in the majors before going to Japan.

If Suzuki has an OPS around .750 in Boston, he'd probably be considered a waste of an eight-figure salary. The average OPS by a big league right fielder last year was .757.

#### SCOREBOARD

NHL							
EASTERN C					E PTS	GF	GA
Florida	35	23	7	5	51	137	106
Tampa Bay	37	23	9	5	51	122	109
Toronto	33	22	8	3	47	112	83
Boston	31	18	11	2	38	92	81
Detroit	35	16	16	3	35	96	118
Buffalo	34	10	18	6	26	91	119
Ottawa	29	9	18	2	20	79	107
Montreal	34	7	23	4	18	73	123
METRO.	GP	W	L	ОТ	PTS	GF	GA
Carolina	33	24	7	2	50	115	73
N.Y. Rangers	36	23	9	4	50	106	91
Washington	36	20	7	9	49	122	97
Pittsburgh	34	20	9	5	45	112	89
Columbus	33	16	16	1	33	106	118
Philadelphia	35	13	15	7	33	90	119
New Jersey	36	14	17	5	33	105	126
N.Y. Islanders	28	10	12	6	26	64	80
WESTERN (	100	IFE	RE	NC	Έ		
CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA
Nashville	36	23	11	2	48	112	95

WESTERN (	CON	IFE	RE	NC	Ε		
CENTRAL	GP	W	L	ОТ	PTS	GF	GA
Nashville	36	23	11	2	48	112	95
St. Louis	36	21	10	5	47	126	98
Colorado	31	21	8	2	44	135	101
Minnesota	33	21	10	2	44	122	102
Winnipeg	33	16	12	5	37	99	99
Dallas	32	17	13	2	36	92	94
Chicago	35	12	18	5	29	83	119
Arizona	33	7	23	3	17	72	128
PACIFIC	GP	W	L	ОТ	PTS	GF	GΑ
Vegas	38	23	14	1	47	135	113
Anaheim	37	18	12	7	43	112	103
Calgary	33	17	10	6	40	104	83
Los Angeles	35	17	13	5	39	97	93
San Jose	36	19	16	1	39	102	112
Edmonton	34	18	14	2	38	113	111
Vancouver	34	16	15	3	35	89	95
Seattle	33	10	19	4	24	92	122
NOTE: Two points for a win, one point							
for overtime loss. Top three teams in							
	each division and two wild cards per						
conference advance to playoffs							

SUNDAY'S RESULTS St. Louis 2, Dallas 1 Detroit at Anaheim, late

Boston at Washington, 7p.m. Tampa Bay at New Jersey, 7p.m. Seattle at Colorado, 9p.m. Ottawa at Edmonton, 10n.m. N.Y. Rangers at Los Angeles, 10:30p.m. Columbus at Montreal, ppd Minnesota at Winnipeg, ppd

TUESDAY'S GAMES Carolina at Philadelphia, 7p.m. Chicago at Columbus, 7p.m. Tampa Bay at Buffalo, 7p.m. Vancouver at Florida, 7n.m. Colorado at Nashville, 8p.m. Pittsburgh at Anaheim, 10p.m. Toronto at Vegas, 10p.m. Detroit at San Jose, 10:30p.m. N.Y. Islanders at Calgary, ppd

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES Montreal at Boston, 7p.m. Seattle at Dallas, 8:30p.m. Toronto at Arizona, 10p.m. Minnesota at Edmonton, ppd

SATURDAY'S RESULTS Dallas 3, Pittsburgh 2 San Jose 3, Philadelphia 2, OT Boston 5, Tampa Bay 2 Florida 4, Carolina 3, OT Columbus 4. New Jersev 3 Colorado 5, Toronto 4, OT Nashville 4, Arizona 2 Minnesota 3, Washington 2, SO Chicago 2, Vegas 1 N.Y. Rangers 4, Anaheim 1 Los Angeles 4. Detroit 0 Buffalo at Montreal, ppd Seattle at Winnipeg, ppd N.Y. Islanders at Edmonton, ppd Ottawa at Vancouver, ppd

#### TENNIS

Sunday in Sydney, Australia; Hard-court-Outdoor FINAL: CANADA 2, SPAIN 0 Felix Auger-Aliassime, Canada, d. Roberto Bautista Agut, Spain,

Denis Shapovalov, Canada, d. Pablo Carreno Busta, Spain, 6-4, 6-3. ATP GREAT OCEAN ROAD OPEN

Sunday at Melbourne Park, Melbourne Austra, outdoors-hardcourt MEN'S SINGLES. CHAMPIONSHIP #1 Rafael Nadal d. Maxime Cressy, 7-6(6), 6-3.

ATP MURRAY RIVER OPEN Sunday at Melbourne Park, Melbourne, Australia, outdoors-hardcourt MEN'S SINGLES, CHAMPIONSHIP #1 Gael Monfils d. #2 Karen Khachanov, 6-4, 6-4.

WTA ADELAIDE INTERNATIONAL Sunday at Memorial Drive Tennis Centre, Adelaide, Australia, outdoors-hardcourt

WOMEN'S SINGLES, CHAMPIONSHIP #1 Ashleigh Barty d. #7 Elena Rybakina, 6-3, 6-2.

WTA YARRA VALLEY CLASSIC Sunday at Melbourne Park, Melbourne, Australia, outdoors-hardcourt WOMEN'S SINGLES, CHAMPIONSHIP #2 Simona Halep d.

#3 Veronika Kudermetova, 6-2, 6-3, SYDNEY TENNIS CLASSIC Sunday in Sydney, Australia; outdoors-hardcourt

MEn'S SINGLES, FIRST ROUND
#5 Lorenzo Sonego vs. Hugo Gaston, #8David Goffin vs. Facundo Bagnis. late Jordan Thompason vs. Marcos Giron,

WOMEN'S SINGLES, FIRST ROUND #4 Anett Kontaveit vs. Shuai Zhang,

#5 Paula Badosa d. Jelena Ostapenko, Petra Kvitova vs. Arantxa Rus. late

ADELAIDE CLASSIC Sunday in Australia; outdoors-hard MEN'S SINGLES FIRST ROUND #6 Alexander Bublik vs. Aleksandar

#7 Frances Taifoe vs. Tommy Paul, late WOMEN'S SINGLES, FIRSTROUND
#8Marketa Vondrousova vs. Viktorija Golubic, late Alize Cornet vs. Nuria Parrizas Diaz,

Marta Kostyuk d. Shelby Rogers, 6-3, 6-4

0000		
COLLEGE BASE		
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG
at N. Kentucky	1	Wright State
Wofford	3 8	at NC Greensboro
at ETSU	71/2	Western Carolina
Illinois-Chicago	71/2	at IUPUI
at UMKC	111/2	Omaha
South Dakota	5	at Nork Dakota
North Dakota St.	7	at Denver
Oregon	61/2	at Oregon State

at Pepperdine	2	1/2	San Diego
NBA			MONDAY
FAVORITE	LINE		UNDERDOG
Utah	11	(222)	at Detroit
at Charlotte	off	(off)	Milwaukee
at New York	61/2	(off)	San Antonio
at Boston	off	(off)	Indiana
at Houston	off	(off)	Philadelphia
at Sacramento	off	(off)	Cleveland
at Portland	off	(off)	Brooklyn

NHL		MON	DAY
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	Line
at Washington	-120	Boston	+100
Tampa Bay	-235	at New Jersey	+190
at Colorado	-365	Seattle	+285
at Edmonton	-245	Ottawa	+198
at Los Angeles	-118	NY Rangers	-102

COLLEGE FO	отв	ALL	MONDAY
FAVORITE	SP	O/U	UNDERDOG
<b>CFP National</b>	Cham	pionshi	p Game
Georgia	21/2	(521/2)	Alabama
For the latest	odds,	go to	
FanDuel Sport	tsbool	k,	
https://sports	hook	fandua	l com/

NBA				
EASTERN CONF	EREN	ICE		
ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GI
Brooklyn	25	13	.658	_
Philadelphia	22			:
Toronto	20			4 1/2
Boston	19		.475	
New York	19	21	.475	
SOUTHEAST	W	L	PCT	GI
Miami	25	15	.625	_
Charlotte	21	19		
Washington	20			!
Atlanta	17			71/
Orlando	7	34	.171	18 ½
CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GI
Chicago	26	10	.722	-
Milwaukee	26	16	.619	:
Cleveland	22	17	.564	5 ½
Indiana	15		.375	13
Detroit	8	30	.211	19
WESTERN CON	FERE	NCE		
SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GI
Memphis	27	14	.659	-
Dallas	21		.538	. !
San Antonio	15		.385	1
New Orleans	14	26	.350	12 ½
Houston	11	30	.268	10

	New Orleans	14	26		12 ½
	Houston	11	30	.268	16
	NORTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
	Utah	28	12	.700	
	Denver	20	18	.526	7
	Minnesota	20	20	.500	8
	Portland	14	24	.368	13
	Oklahoma City	13	26	.333	14
	½w				
	PACIFIC	W	L	PCT	GB
	Phoenix	30	9	.769	
	Golden State	29	9	.763	1/2
	L.A. Lakers	21	19	.525	9 1/2
	L.A. Clippers	20	21	.488	11
1					
	Sacramento	16	25	.390	15

SUNDAY'S RESULTS Brooklyn 121, San Antonio 119, OT L.A. Clippers 106, Atlanta 93 Washington 1-2. Orlando 100 Toronto 105, New Orlans 101 Minnesota 141, Houston 123 Denver 99, Oklahoma City 95 Chicago at Dallas, late Cleveland at Golden State, late Sacramento at Portland, late Memphis at L.A. Lakers, late

MONDAY'S GAMES Milwaukee at Charlotte, 7p.m. Utah at Detroit, 7p.m. Indiana at Boston, 7:30p.m. San Antonio at New York, 7:30p.m. Philadelphia at Houston, 8p.m. Brooklyn at Portland, 10p.m. Cleveland at Sacramento, 10p.m

TUESDAY'S GAMES Oklahoma City at Washington, 7p.m. Phoenix at Toronto, 7:30p.m. Detroit at Chicago, 8p.m. Golden State at Memphis, 8p.m. Minnesota at New Orleans, 8p.m. Denver at L.A. Clippers, 10:30p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES Boston at Indiana, 7p.m. Charlotte at Philadelphia, 7p.m. Orlando at Washington, 7p.m. Dallas at New York, 7:30p.m. Miami at Atlanta, 7:30p.m. Houston at San Antonio, 8:30p.m. Cleveland at Utah, 9p.m. Brooklyn at Chicago, 10p.m. L.A. Lakers at Sacramento, 10p.m.

SATURDAY'S RESULTS Memphis 123, L.A. Clippers 108 Indiana 125, Utah 113 Detroit 97, Orlando 92 Charlotte 114, Milwaukee 106 Boston 99, New York 75

SCORING	<b>LEAD</b>	ER	s
		_	_

PLAYER	G	FG	FT	PTS	PPG
Durant, Brk	32	348	202	958	29.9
James, LAL	28	299	124	803	28.7
GAnttKnmpo, Mil	33	329	245	940	28.5
Young, Atl	34	329	210	962	28.3
St.Curry, GS	35	302	154	938	26.8
Embiid, Phi	27	231	227	724	26.8
DeRozan, Chi	33	314	223	876	26.5
LaVine, Chi	34	325	140	896	26.4
Jokic, Den	32	325	132	831	26.0
Mitchell, Utah	36	338	134	928	25.8
Tatum, Bos	36	319	179	919	25.5

through Saturday

21 20 20 20	17 12 12 11	2	2 2 2	53 45 52	16	53 43
21 20 20 20	12 12 11	7	2	45	16	
20 20 20	12 11	6	2			43
20 20	11	_		52	10	
20		2	7		18	42
	10		- /	33	25	35
1Ω	TO	4	6	37	27	34
10	10	3	5	23	20	33
19	9	4	6	30	27	31
19	8	4	7	14	14	28
19	6	9	4	20	20	27
18	7	4	7	31	33	25
20	5	8	7	29	30	23
19	6	5	8	23	26	23
19	7	1	11	25	30	22
19	4	9	6	20	29	21
18	5	4	9	23	32	19
19	4	7	8	21	37	19
18	4	1	13	22	36	13
17	1	8	8	16	27	11
19	1	8	10	19	42	11
19	2	4	13	8	42	10
	19 18 19 18 17 19	19 4 18 5 19 4 18 4 17 1 19 1	19 4 9 18 5 4 19 4 7 18 4 1 17 1 8 19 1 8	19 4 9 6 18 5 4 9 19 4 7 8 18 4 1 13 17 1 8 8 19 1 8 10	19 4 9 6 20 18 5 4 9 23 19 4 7 8 21 18 4 1 13 22 17 1 8 8 16 19 1 8 10 19	19 4 9 6 20 29 18 5 4 9 23 32 19 4 7 8 21 37 18 4 1 13 22 36 17 1 8 8 16 27 19 1 8 10 19 42

TUESDAY'S MATCHES Southampton vs. Brentford, 2:45p.m. Everton vs. Leicester, 3p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S MATCH West Ham vs. Norwich, 2:45p.m.

FRIDAY'S MATCH Brighton vs. Crystal Palace, 3p.m.

SATURDAY'S MATCHES Man City vs. Chelsea, 7:30a.m. Burnley vs. Leicester, 10a.m. Newcastle vs. Watford, 10a.m. Norwich vs. Everton, 10a.m.

Wolverhampton vs. Southampton, 10 a.m.

Aston Villa vs. Man United, 12:30p.m.

SUNDAY, JAN, 16 Liverpool vs. Brentford, 9a.m. West Ham vs. Leeds, 9a.m. Tottenham vs. Arsenal, 11:30a.m.

Jason Kokrak

GOLF		
LATE SATURDAY:	PGA SENTRY	
TOURNAMENT O	F CHAMPIONS	
3rd of 4 rounds; Kap		
Kapalua, Maui, Haw		
Cameron Smith	65-64-64—193	-26
Jon Rahm	66-66-61-193	-26
Daniel Berger	66-66-66-198	-21
Matt Jones	70-67-62—199 67-67-65—199	-20 -20
Sungjae Im Patrick Cantlav	66-67-66—199	-20
Marc Leishman		-18
Justin Thomas	69-67-65—201 74-67-61—202	-18
Hideki Matsuvama	69-65-68-202	-17
Cam Davis	69-68-66-203	-16
Kevin Kisner	69-68-66-203	-16
Stewart Cink	69-67-67-203	-16
Kevin Na	67-68-68-203	-16
Max Homa	72-67-65—204	-15
Patrick Reed		-15
Bryson DeChambeau	74-64-66—204 69-68-67—204	-15
Xander Schauffele		-15
Sam Burns	72-64-68-204	-15
Talor Gooch	68-70-67-205	-14
Collin Morikawa	68-70-67-205	-14
Seamus Power	71-65-69-205	-14
Si Woo Kim	71-65-69-205	-14
Joel Dahmen	68-69-69-206	-13
Garrick Higgo	68-69-69-206	-13
Erik van Rooyen	67-70-70-207	-12
Jordan Spieth		-11
Tony Finau	71-69-68—208 70-69-69—208	-11
Brooks Koepka	68-68-72-208	-11
Billy Horschel	72-67-70-209	-10
Lucas Herbert	69-73-68-210	_0
Phil Mickelson	71-69-70-210	_0
Harris English	73-70-68-211	-8
Viktor Hovland	69-69-73-211	-8
K.H. Lee	72-71-69-212	-7
Abraham Ancer	72-69-71-212	-7
Branden Grace	69-69-74-212	-7
Lucas Glover	74-69-70-213	-6

72-70-72-214

#### **COLLEGE BASKETBALL**

**MEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED** No. 1 Baylor (15-0) did not play. Next: vs. No. 25 Texas Tech, Tuesday. No. 2 Duke (12-2) did not play. Next: at Wake Forest, Wednesday.

No. 3 Purdue (13-2) did not play. Next: at Michigan, Tuesday, No. 4 Gonzaga (12-2) did not play. Next: vs. BYU, Thursday. No. 5 UCLA (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Oregon, Thursday.
No. 6 Kansas (12-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 11 Iowa St., Tuesday No. 7 Southern Cal (13-0) did not play.
Next: vs. Oregon St., Thursday.
No. 8 Arizona (12-1) did not play. Next: No. 9 Auburn (14-1) did not play. Next: at No. 15 Alahama, Tuesda No. 10 Michigan State (13-2) did not play. Next: vs. Minnesota, Wednesday. No. 11 Iowa St. (13-2) did not play. Next: at No. 6 Kansas, Tuesday. No. 12 Houston (14-2) did not play. Next: at Tulsa, Saturda No. 13 Ohio State (10-3) beat Northwestern 95-87. Next: at No. 23 No. 14 Texas (12-3) did not play. Next: vs. Oklahoma, Tuesday. No. 15 Alabama (11-4) did not play. Next: vs. No. 9 Auburn No. 16 Kentucky (12-3) did not play. Next: at Vanderbilt. Tuesday No. 16 Providence (14-2) did not play Next: at Creighton, Tuesday. No. 18 Tennessee (10-4) did not play. Next: vs. South Carolina, Tuesday No. 19 Villanova (11-4) did not play. Next: at Xavier, Wednesda No. 20 Colorado St. (11-1) did not play. No. 21 LSU (14-1) did not play. Next: at No. 22 Xavier (12-2) did not play. Next: vs. Villanova. Wednesday. No. 23 Wisconsin (12-2) at Maryland. Next: at No. 13 Ohio State, Thursday. No. 24 Seton Hall (11-3) did not play Next: at DePaul, Thursday.
No. 25 Texas Tech (11-3) did not play.

SUNDAY'S SCORES Fort Wayne 76, Robert Morris 70 Niagara 76, Quinnipiac 66 Rider 79. Marist 75 SUNY-Cobleskill 93, Maine Maritime 90 Siena 69, Fairfield 62 Towson 70, Northeastern 67 Berry 77, Hendrix 66 Centre 66, Millsaps 57

Next: at No. 1 Baylor, Tuesday.

Coll. of Charleston 65, Elon 61 Hofstra 87, James Madison 80 Memphis 87, Cincinnati 80 Sewanee 79, Birmingham Southern 74 William Peace 66, Brevard 60 MIDWEST Cleveland St. 86, Youngstown St. 80, OT Indiana 73, Minnesota 60 Oakland 86, Milwaukee 65

SOUTHWEST Cent. Arkansas 93, Lipscomb 88 St. Thomas (Texas) 70, Centenary 59 Colorado 78, Washington 64 Colorado College 87, Austin 75 Colorado Mesa 81, Black Hills St. 71

Montana St. 66, Mor		
SEASON SCORING PLAYER	G SCHOOL	PPC
Keegan Murray	Iowa	24.
Antoine Davis	<b>Detroit Mercy</b>	23.0
Max Abmas	Oral Roberts	22.9
Johnny Davis	Wisconsin	22.0
Kofi Cockburn	Illinois	22.
Jav. Freeman-Liberty through Saturday	DePaul	21.0

WOMEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED No. 1. South Carolina (15-1) beat No. 21 Kentucky 74-54. Next: vs. No. 25 Texas A&M, Thursday.

No. 2. Stanford (11-3) beat Gonzaga 66-50. Next: at Colorado, Friday. No. 3. Louisville (13-1) did not play. Next: vs. Syracuse. Thursday No. 4. Arizona (11-1) lost to Southern Cal 76-67. Next: at Oregon State, No. 5. NC State (14-2) beat Miami 76-64.

Next: at Virginia, Thursday. No. 6. Indiana (12-2) did not play. Next: vs. Nebraska, Thursday No. 7. Tennessee (15-1) beat Mississippi 70-58. Next: at Vanderbilt. No. 8. Michigan (13-2) beat Rutgers

76-47. Next: at Penn St., Thursday. No. 9. Texas (11-2) beat Texas Rio

Grande Valley 93-58. Next: vs. Kansas, No. 10. Maryland (12-4) beat Minnesota 87-73. Next: vs. No. 8 Michigan, Sunday. No. 11. UConn (7-3) beat Creighton 63-55. Next: at Butler, Wednesday. No. 12. Iowa State (14-1) did not play. Next: at Kansas St., Tuesday No. 13. LSU (15-2) beat Auburn 76-48. Next: vs. Missouri, Thursday. No. 14. Baylor (10-3) did not play. Next: No. 15. Georgia (13-3) beat Alabama 72-68. Next: at Missouri, Monday,

No. 16. Georgia Tech (11-3) beat Virginia 67-31. Next: at Pittsburgh

Tuesday.
No. 17. Duke (11-2) beat Syracuse 74-65. Next: vs. Virginia Tech, Thursday. No. 18. BYU (12-1) did not play. Next: vs. Saint Mary's (Cal), Thursday. No. 19. North Carolina (14-1) beat Virginia Tech 71-46. Next: at No. 20 Notre Dame, Sunday. No. 20. Notre Dame (11-3) did not play. Next: at Wake Forest, Thursday. No. 21. Kentucky (8-4) lost to No. 1 South Carolina 74-54. Next: vs. Mississippi St., Thursday.

No. 22. Iowa (8-4) beat Nebraska 95-86. Next: at Purdue, Thursday No. 23. Oklahoma (13-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 14 Baylor, Wednesday. No. 24. South Florida (11-4) did not play. Next: at Tulane, Wednesday. No. 25. Texas A&M (10-5) lost Florida 97-89. Next: at No. 1 South Carolina,

SUNDAY'S SCORES Duke 74, Syracuse 65 La Salle 71, Fordham 62 Niagara 87, Canisius 86, OT Northeastern 64, Hofstra 51 Sciences (Pa.) 76, Arizona 67 Stony Brook 63, Maine 44 Towson 91, William & Mary 55 UConn 63, Creighton 55 Boston College 80, Clemson 74 Delaware 86, Coll. of Charleston 84, OT Drexel 71, UNC-Wilmington 68, OT

Florida Gulf Coast 83, Jacksonville 64 Florida St. 87, Wake Forest 46 Georgia 72, Alabama 68 Georgia Tech 67, Virginia 31 James Madison 59, Elon 57 LSU 76, Auburn 48 McNeese St. 108, Royals 39 Middle Tennessee 80, North Texas 52 Mississippi St. 70, Vanderbilt 63 NC State 76, Miami 64 North Carolina 71, Virginia Tech 46 South Carolina 74, Kentucky 54 Southern Miss. 65, Louisiana Tech 59 Tennessee 70, Mississippi 58 VCU 72, Saint Joseph's 64 Illinois 68, Wisconsin 47 Illinois St. 87, Evansville 68 Indiana St. 73, Bradley 57 Iowa 95, Nebraska 86 Kent St. 54, Ball St. 51

Purdue 69, Michigan St. 59 Robert Morris 2, Wright St. 0 Valparaiso 71, Drake 61 SOUTHWEST Arkansas 83, Missouri 73 Florida 97, Texas A&M 89, 2OT Texas 93, Texas Rio Grande Valley 58 Texas A&M-CC 62, Incarnate Word 43

Maryland 87, Minnesota 73

Michigan 76, Rutgers 47 Ohio St. 74, Northwestern 61

Boise St. 71, Utah St. 47 Colorado 71, UCLA 63 Colorado St. 90, San Jose St. 64 Hawaii 54, Cal St.-Fullerton 52 New Mexico 75, San Diego St. 72 Oregon 88, California 53 Stanford 66, Gonzaga 50

#### COLLEGE FOOTBALL

**UPCOMING BOWLS CFP Championship Game, Indianapolis** Alabama (13-1) vs. Georgia (13-1), 8 p.m

**PAST BOWL RESULTS** FRIDAY, DEC. 17 Bahamas BowlNassau, Bahamas Middle Tennessee 31, Toledo 24 Cure Bowl, Orlando, Fla. Coastal Carolina 47, Northern Illinois 41

**SATURDAY, DEC. 18** Boca Raton Bowl, Boca Raton, Fla. W. Kentucky 59, Appalahican St. 38 Celebration Bowl, Atlanta S. Carolina St. 31, Jackson St. 10 New Mexico Bowl. Albuquerque Fresno State 31, UTEP 24 Independence Bowl, Shreveport, La. Ala-Birmingham 31, #13BYU 28 LendingTree Bowl, Mobile, Ala. Liberty 56, Eastern Michigan 20 LA Bowl, Inglewood, Calif. Utah St. 24, Oregon State 13 New Orleans Bowl, New Orleans #16 La-Lafayette 36, Marshall 21e

**MONDAY, DEC. 20** Myrtle Beach Bowl, Conway, S.C. Tulsa 30, Old Dominion 17

TUESDAY, DEC. 21 Famous Idaho Potato, Boise, Idaho Wyoming 52, Kent State 38 Frisco Bowl, Frisco, Texas San Diego State 38, #24 UTSA 24

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 22 Armed Forces Bowl, Fort Worth, Texas Army 24, Missouri 22

**THURSDAY, DEC. 23** Frisco Football Classic, Frisco, Texas Miami (Ohio) 27, North Texas 14 Gasparilla Bowl, Tampa, Fla. UCF 29, Florida 17

FRIDAY, DEC. 24 Hawaii Bowl, Honolulu Memphis (6-6) vs. Hawaii (6-7), ccd.

**SATURDAY, DEC. 25** Camellia Bowl, Montgomery, Ala. Georgia St. 51, Ball State 20

MONDAY, DEC. 27 Western Michigan 52, Nevada 24 Military Bowl, Annapolis, Md. Boston Coll. (6-6) vs. E. Carolina (7-5), ccd.

TUESDAY, DEC. 28 Birmingham Bowl, Birmingham, Ala. #20 Houston 17, Auburn 13 SERVPRO First Responder Bowl, Dallas Air Force 31, Louisville 28
Liberty Bowl, Memphis, Tenn. Texas Tech 34, Mississippi State 7

Guaranteed Rate Bowl, Phoenix Minnesota 18, West Virginia 6 Holiday Bowl, San Diego UCLA (8-4) vs. NC State (9-3), ccd.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 29 Pinstripe Bowl, New York City Maryland 54, Virginia Tech 10 Cheez-It Bowl, Orlando, Fla. #19Clemson 20, Iowa State 13 Alamo Bowl, San Antonio #16 Oklahoma 47, #14 Oregon 32 Fenway Bowl, Boston Virginia (6-6) vs. SMU (8-4), ccd

THURSDAY, DEC. 30 Duke's Mayo Bowl, Charlotte, N.C. South Carolina 38, North Carolina 21 Music City Bowl, Nashvill Purdue 48, Tennessee 45(OT) Peach Bowl, Atlanta #10 Michigan State 31, #12 Pittsburgh 21 Las Vegas Bowl, Las Vegas Wisconsin 20, Arizona State 13

FRIDAY, DEC. 31 College Football Playoff Semifinal (Cotton Bowl Classic), Arlington, Texas #1Alabama 27, #4Cincinnati 6 College Football Playoff Semifinal (Orange Bowl), Miami Gardens, Fla. #3 Georgia 34, #2 Michigan 11 Gator Bowl, Jacksonville, Fla. #17Wake Forest 38, Rutgers 10 Sun Bowl, El Paso, Texas Cent. Michigan 24, Washington State 21 Arizona Bowl, Tucson, Ariz., ccd.

Outback Bowl, Tampa, Fla. #21 Arkansas 24, Penn State 10 Citrus Bowl, Orlando, Fla. #21 Kentucky 20, #15 Jowa 17 Fiesta Bowl, Glendale, Ariz. #90klahoma St. 37, #5Notre Dame 35 Rose Bowl, Pasadena, Calif. #6 Ohio State 48, #11 Utah 45 Sugar Rowl, New Orleans #7Baylor 21, #8Mississippi 7

TUESDAY, JAN. 4 **Texas Bowl, Houston** Kansas State 42, LSU 20

# UGA

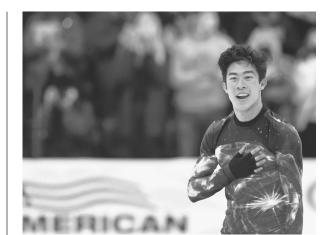
OFFENSE	UGA	ALA
Avg Points Per Game	39.0	41.4
First Downs	321	343
Rushing yardage	2,719	2,220
Number of Rush Plays	515	520
Avg. Yards Per Rush	5.3	4.3
Rushing Yards/Game	194.2	158.6
Rushing Touchdowns	28	21
Passing yardage	3,554	4,704
Passing Plays	381	514
Avg. Yards/Completic	n 14.4	13.6
Passing Yards/Game	253.9	336.0
Passing touchdowns	37	47
Passes Intercepted	12	5
Total offensive yards	6,270	6,924
Yards per game	448.1	494.6
Offensive toudhdown	s 59	74
3rd down conversions	73/159	107/203
3rd down conv pct.	46%	52%
Fumbles Lost .	4	5
DEFENSE	UGA	ALA
Avg. points allowed	9.6	19.2
First downs allowed	199	245
B 11 1 11		

i ii st dowiis allowed	133	243
Rushing yards allowed	ed 1,150	1,152
Rushing Plays	435	455
Yards Per Rush	2.6	2.5
Rushing Yards/Game	82.4	82.3
Passing yards allowed	ed 2,481	3,046
Passing Plays	450	444
Yards Per Completio	n 9.9	10.9
Passing Yards/Game	177.2	217.6
Passes Intercepted	14	15
Opponent total offens	e 3,631	4,198
Opp. yards/game	259.6	299.9
Opp. 3rd down conv.	74/219	60/196
Opp 3rd down conv	34%	30%
Rush TDs allowed	3	8
Pass TDs allowed	9	23
Fumbles Recovered	4	5
Def. sacks-yds lost	45-331	53-329
QB hits	n/a	49
Interceptions	14	15
Forced fumbles	10	5
Solo tackles	483	493
Safeties	2	0
SPECIAL TEAMS	UGA	ALA
Field goals	20-25	19-24
Longest made FG	46	51
Avg. Kickoff Return	18.2	25.3

Special tm return TDs	1	
Net Punting	41.2	3
Opp. Avg. Punt Return	11.09	6.
Avg. Punt Return	9.0	
Op. Avg. Kickoff Return	າ13.00	18.
Avg. Kickoff Return	18.2	2.
Longest made FG	46	

QUARTER	-		3	-	UI	101
Georgia Opp.	163 22	189 34	109 21	85 58	0	546 135
Alabama Opp.		204	103	134	14 12	580 269
POSSESSIO	N		U	GA		ALA
Time of pos	ssessi	ion	30	:42	3	31:54
Opp. posse	ssion		29	:17	2	28:06
Penalties				67		100
Opp.				90		91

TURNOVERS	GAIN	LOST	тм	AVG				
Georgia	19	16	+3	+.14				
Alabama	19	11	+8	+.64				
georgiadogs.com/sports/football								
rolltide.com/sports/football								



Nathan Chen dominated the competition to win his sixth U.S. figure skating championship in row Sunday, one short of Dick Button's record of seven straight. MARK ZALESKI/AP

FIGURE SKATING

# Chen claims 6th US title

By Dave Skretta Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. -Nathan Chen had landed some of the most difficult jumps in figure skating, soaring through the air with a dizzying array of quads and flawlessly stringing together incredible combinations that left

the crowd wanting more. Figures that he would faceplant on a simple step

sequence. It didn't matter, though. Nor did a mistake on one of his four quadruple jumps. Chen was that much better than everyone else at the U.S. Figure Skating Championships on Sunday, winning the free skate with 212.63 points and scoring 328.01 in all - good for his sixth consecutive title by nearly 26 points over 17-year-old wunderkind Ilia Malinin.

"Silly things happen all the time. Am I to expect that? Probably not," Chen said with a smile and shrug. "It was a dumb little moment. I just got wrapped up in that moment and lost my footing. It is what it is. Make sure I don't do that again."

Chen's six titles are the most by a men's skater since Todd Eldredge won his sixth in 2002, and he's the first to win six in a row since two-time Olympic champion Dick Button won seven straight in the 1940s and '50s.

Vincent Zhou followed an exceptional short program with a calamitous free skate Sunday, barely edging Jason Brown for third place and putting his spot on the U.S. team for Beijing in question.

It has been a remarkable four-year run for the 22-year-old Chen since a shockingly poor short program at the Pyeongchang Games cost him a shot at an Olympic medal. Chen won 14 consecutive events, from national titles to world championships and everything in between, before losing to Zhou at Skate America in October.

That turned out to be a blip: Chen won Skate Canada the very next

He underscored his readiness for Beijing when he broke his own national record in the short program, a throwback to his "La Boheme" program from a couple years ago that featured a pair of soaring quads and scored 115.39 points.

Then, Chen put his readiness in all CAPS with his performance in the free skate.

Wearing a costume adorned with a supernova, Chen blasted off into another level to music from "Rocketman" with a score that beat his own Grand Prix best this season of 307.18 points. And he topped the 322.36 points his biggest rival in Beijing, two-time Olympic champ Yuzuru Hanyu, scored in winning the Japanese national title last month.

Malinin, whose parents both skated for Uzbekistan at the Olympics, had a three-point lead after the short program over longtime fan favorite Jason Brown, whose odvssev getting to Nashville five canceled flights, four airline changes, three airports, two countries and about 33 hours of traveling — made him a winner regardless of his performance.

Malinin, the self-proclaimed "quad god," hit a huge opening quad lutz and quad toe loop to set the tone for his program. He also hit a quad salchow later in the performance to finish second with 302.48 points.

## **IN BRIEF**

# **Broncos** fire Fangio after three seasons

News services

The Broncos are looking for a new head coach to lead them out of a six-year playoff drought and a half decade of losing seasons that marks the most protracted plunge by a Super Bowl champion in NFL history.

The Broncos fired head coach Vic Fangio, 63, after he went 19-30 over three years, including 7-10 this season.

Fangio's .387 winning percentage included a 6-11 mark at home over the last two seasons, the worst two-year stretch for the Broncos since they went 4-10 in 1967-68.

The new coach will be the Broncos' fifth in nine

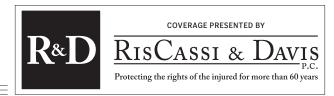
College basketball: Michigan's home game against No. 3 Purdue scheduled for Tuesday night was postponed because the Wolverines have fewer than seven scholarship players cleared to play as a result of COVID-19 protocols. Michigan had already postponed their game Saturday against No. 10 Michigan State.

College football: The administrators who manage the College Football Playoff will report on the progress of expansion talks to a presidential oversight committee Monday. The CFP management committee wrapped up about seven hours of meetings over the weekend. Executive Director Bill Hancock said only that the group had made progress, but gave no indication on whether a consensus was reached on a new format.

**NBA:** Grizzlies F Dillon Brooks is expected to miss at least 3-5 weeks, and may be out through the All-Star break with a sprained ankle, ESPN reported. Brooks is the Grizzlies' No. 2 scorer at 18.4 ppg.

**NHL:** The Devils-Lightning and Oilers-Senators games scheduled for Monday were postponed due to COVID issues with the Devils and Oilers.

**Soccer:** Premier League club Arsenal was knocked out of the FA Cup with a 1-0 third-round road loss to second-tier Nottingham Forest.



#### **Women's**

from Page 1

final minutes of the game before pulling out the win.

"The offense looked really good at times, but we have to just get better at sustaining things," coach Geno Auriemma said. "We allow something that happens to set us back, so we'll take two steps forward, something will happen, we'll take two steps back. And that hopefully is something we can work on in the next couple of days, the next couple weeks. ... The only constant that I've seen [as the team searches for its identity] is the inconsistency."

UConn looked good early considering Sunday was its first game in three weeks, bouncing ahead 16-9 behind seven points on perfect shooting from Juhász. But Creighton (10-4, 5-1) hung around thanks to the Huskies' nine firsthalf turnovers (including five traveling calls) and some defensive breakdowns leading to easy Bluejays baskets in the paint.

The Huskies led by as many as 10 in the first 20 minutes, but when the Bluejays cut the deficit to four twice, UConn responded each time: the first with back-toback baskets from Ducharme and Edwards, and the second with a free throw from Juhász and transition layup from Ducharme, giving UConn a 36-29 edge going into the break. At that point, Juhász, Ducharme and Edwards combined for 28 of UConn's points.

UConn pulled ahead by 11 early in the third quarter off a pair of free throws from Evina Westbrook, but some miscues on both ends allowed the Bluejays to score six straight points and make it a fivepoint game with 4:30 left in the period. The Huskies composed themselves and closed the third up 10, finishing the frame on a 7-2 run, before getting some breathing room early in the fourth behind another Ducharme basket, a Williams 3 and then a Williams layup to go up 56-39.

They turned things around starting with their defense, holding Creighton to just two points for roughly eight minutes spanning the third into the fourth.

"I feel like we have to get stops on defense for our offense to flow," Williams said. "That's been the big emphasis. Once we get steals and stops, everything flows on the other end, and I think we're starting to pick up on that every day in practice and in games."

In all, the Huskies held Creighton, which entered the game one of the most prolific 3-point shooting teams in the nation, to 5-for-25 shooting from the arc. But the Bluejays' excellent offensive movement allowed them to outscore UConn in the paint, 34-28.

"They're not an easy team to defend," Auriemma said. "You've got to work really, really hard, and you've got to keep working. The



UConn's Caroline Ducharme blocks a shot by Creighton's Carly Bachelor in the second half Sunday in Storrs. Ducharme had 17 points and three blocks. JESSICA HILL/AP

minute you stop, they get a layup or they get an open 3."

A sloppy final few minutes for the Huskies as Creighton intensified its defensive pressure helped the Bluejays cut the deficit to nine with 1:41 to play and eight with 16.5 seconds left, but they couldn't pull any closer.

"I think it was progress in the first half of the fourth quarter, but the second half of the fourth quarter, I don't know if it was mental fatigue and that we hadn't played in a while, but I think we kind of let the pressure get to us a little bit," Williams said. "That's just some-thing that we have to work on."

## Nika Mühl return

Mühl's return after dealing with a foot injury was a welcome sight, but she didn't do herself any favors: She ran over a Creighton player and got called for a foul 24 seconds after checking into the game for the first time and picked up a second foul early in the second quarter. She finished with four fouls in 17 minutes.

"It's hard when you miss that much time and you haven't practiced much," Auriemma said. "She's looked a lot better in practice than she looked today playing.

"I think she just has to understand that she's not right all the time and that the refs are allowed to call fouls once in a while, that it's not always their fault when you foul. And that causes her to not have a rhythm in the game because she can't be in the game as long as she wants to be or for long stretches like she wants to be."

Mühl was only supposed to play 15 minutes, ultimately logging just north of that at 17.

"All in all, I'm just glad that we got her the minutes we got her, and hopefully we can get a few more out of her this coming week," Auriemma said.

## **Personnel updates**

Auriemma said that junior Aubrey Griffin, who has yet to play this season, is having surgery Monday to repair a disk issue in her back. He reiterated that she's unlikely to return this season.

He added that he's hoping freshman Amari DeBerry will be "good to go this coming week," while sophomore Piath Gabriel is not ready yet

and will be "a little bit longer." Sophomore Azzi Fudd is "being allowed to do more and more each

day, so hopefully she's getting close," Auriemma said.

Alexa Philippou can be reached at aphilippou@courant.com.

UCONN 63,	CREI	GHTON	1 55				
Creighton	M	FG	FT	RB	Α	PF	PT
Ronsiek	25	5-9	0-0	4	2	2	10
Rembao	33	3-6	0-0	4	3	1	6
Brotzki	16	3-5	0-0	1	1	3	6
Jensen	28	2-7	0-0	5	1	1	5
Bachelor	18	0-4	0-0	1	0	3	0
Maly	23	5-16	0-0	5	3	0	14
Mogensen	21	2-4	4-4	3	2	0	8
Brake	10	2-3	0-0	1	1	5	4
Saunders	20	1-7	0-2	2	0	2	2
Horan	6	0-1	0-0	1	0	0	0
TOTALS	_	23-62	4-6	34	13	17	55
Three-point g	oals:	5-25, 20	.0(Ma	lly 4-1	L3, J	ense	'n
1-5, Ronsiek 0	-1, Re	mbao 0	-1, Br	otzki	0-1,		
Mogensen 0-1	L, Hora	an 0-1, 9	Saund	lers 0	-2).	FG p	ct.:
37.1. FT pct.: (	66.7. T	eam rel	bound	ls: 7.	Turr	iove	rs:
16(Maly 4, Jei	nsen 3	Ronsid	ek 2, F	≀emb	ao 2	, Bro	t-
zki 2, Mogens							
Steals: 4(Rem	ıbao, I	Maly, M	ogens	sen, S	aur	ider:	s) <b>.</b>
UConn	M	FG	FT	RB	Α	PF	PT
Ducharme	38	7-13	1-2	5	2	3	17
Williams	38	5-11	1-4	5	0	2	13
Juhasz	31	3-8	3-4	3	3	0	10

Nelson-Ododa 22 Westbrook 33 32 3-6 1-1 33 0-1 2-2 22 5-10 2-2 16 1-4 0-0 - 24-53 10-15 Westbrook 4 3 2 Edwards Muhl Three-point goals: 5-20, 25.0(Williams 2-5, Ducharme 2-6, Juhasz 1-4, Nelson-Ododa 0-1, Westbrook 0-1, Muhl 0-3). FG pct.: 45.3. FT pct.:

66.7. Team rebounds: 4. Turnovers: 16(West-brook 6, Williams 3, Edwards 3, Ducharme 2, Nelson-Ododa, Muhl). Blocks: 5(Ducharme 3, Nelson-Ododa, Muni). Biocks: 5(Ducharme 3, Juhasz, Edwards). Steals: 9(Edwards 3, Ducharme 2, Westbrook 2, Williams, Nelson-Ododa). Creighton 15 14 10 16 - 55 UConn 21 15 13 14 - 63 Officials: Smith, Stuck, Brunette. Att.: 6,636at Gampel Pavilion, Storrs.

while, so I'm hoping our defense

#### Amore from Page 1

one step up and be that person, but we haven't found that person

When Auriemma left the room, at least one obvious candidate raised her hand. Couldn't Christyn Williams be the floor general the Huskies need?

"Yes," Williams said. "He's been talking to me about that. It's been an emphasis on that in practice, trying to be a leader out there. I've had some rough games in the past, so I'm still trying to get myself back to speed so I can lead my teammates the way they need to be led. But I feel like I can be that player, and I will be that player for you guys."

Caroline Ducharme was on Williams' right, Aaliyah Edwards on her left. They carried much of the load Sunday. Ducharme, the freshman who has been the leading scorer since Bueckers went down, had 17 points, five rebounds, three blocks,

two assists and two steals, a sturdy all-round performance that exhibited all the work she has put in to raise her game, especially on defense, to the major college level faster than anyone imagined. Edwards had 12 points, three rebounds and three steals in 22 minutes off the bench. Neither has the experience to have that responsibility put on her back.

The Huskies, first and foremost, will have to do this with defense, though Auriemma is not convinced 63 points, let alone the 60.5 they are averaging without Bueckers, will be enough.

"We've got to figure out a way to get to 75, at least," he said. "... So much of it is self-inflicted, unforced errors, a mental toughness that has to be there, a concentration element that has to be there. When you watch this particular group play, as it was [Sunday], there really was an up and down factor to it, and that's the only constant that I've seen in this group is its inconsistency. Players will look really good for four or five possessions, and then look completely opposite for five possessions."

Williams, who has been in the program the longest, was 5-for-11, 2-for-5 on 3s, scoring 13 with five rebounds, but had no assists and three turnovers. Evina Westbrook, the fifth-year senior, had two points, four rebounds, three assists — and six turnovers.

"When you're a senior and you've played a lot of basketball in college, there are certain expectations you should have for yourself," Auriemma said, "and I think, if you asked her, she's not exactly thrilled with some of her performances. Being a playmaker is exactly what we need,

and we haven't gotten that." So here the Huskies stand at 7-3, in unfamiliar surroundings. Creighton, 5-0 in the Big East coming in, is presumably one of the better conference opponents, and it's beginning to look like this won't be the annual unbeaten frolic through the conference season for UConn.

"This is going to be what it looks like," Auriemma said. "This is gong to be what it is, for a

can stay exactly the way it is and we can get a little more consistent on offense."

They know they can't expect Aubrey Griffin, who had back surgery, back this season. Maybe freshman Azzi Fudd, with her potential to provide instant offense, is back before too many more games. Nika Muhl's return provided a little more support, 17 minutes, on Sunday. Maybe Amari DeBerry and Piath Gabriel return soon and add a little more

But the Huskies have 17 games packed into the next 47 days. It's going to be a long hike with food and water in limited supply, and the Huskies must look to the most experienced to lead them through the wilderness.

"I need to be that player for my teammates every day in practice," Williams said, "be consistent with it, carry it over in the games. As an upper classman, I feel it's my duty."

Dom Amore can be reached at damore@courant.com.

# **Men's**

from Page 1

#### **UConn's hot** 3-point shooting

Perhaps one of the most interesting things about this Huskies team is its 3-point shooting. Players who are not typically shooters (Akok Akok and Jackson) are leading the team in percentages. While players like Tyler Polley, who is traditionally a good shooter, is shooting 32% from 3. On Saturday against Seton Hall, the Huskies shot a seasonbest 14-for-23 (61%) from 3. Polley was 3-for-5, his first good game from beyond the arc since the Auburn game, when he went 6-for-9. Tyrese Martin went 3-for-4 and Akok and Jackson each went 2-for-4 from 3. Watching Akok drain 3s never gets old.

#### Akok's lack of minutes

On Saturday, UConn started Sanogo and Akok together, which has only happened one other time this season, UConn's 64-60 loss to Michigan State. They started together due to Isaiah Whaley coming off COVID-19, according to Hurley. Akok ended up with six points and two assists, but played just 19 minutes. While he wasn't dominant on the boards (Sanogo gobbled up 16 rebounds), he gave the Huskies a nice balance of floor spacing and big 3-point shooting threat. As UConn needed three points to tie the game at the end of overtime, why wasn't the best 3-point shooter on the floor? Typically most teams don't play doublebig due to lack of spacing, but his 3-point shooting isn't just a mirage. Akok has been stepping into his 3s and making his catch-and-shoot opportunities.

#### **UConn's** ballhandling and turnover issues

You can't win a lot of games when you turn the ball over 19 times like the Huskies did, leading to 26 Seton Hall points. It felt like every time UConn was on the verge of putting the game away, it would turn the ball over, breathing life into the Pirates. The Huskies' ballhandling issues have been a consistent problem throughout the season with guard R.J Cole forced to carry the load. When Cole fouled out with 2:19 to play in overtime, the Huskies struggled to initiate sets, leading to Martin turning the ball over when down one with 2 seconds left and essentially sealing the game.

#### Sanogo is back to his old self

Sanogo started his first game since UConn faced Maryland Eastern Shore. He had missed four games due to an abdominal strain, but played 13 minutes against Marquette. He came into Saturday's game questionable to play after being limited in practice due to a hamstring injury he sustained in the Marquette game. He finished with 18 points and 16 rebounds. According to Sanogo, he felt 100 percent but later said he was playing through some pain. Coming into the game he was supposed to play under 20 minutes, but ended up playing 32. On the court, he looked comfortable. He got to his spots in the post for easy scores, dominated the glass and passed out of double teams, an important develop-

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# NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

#### **SHORTS**

#### Smith holds off No. 1 Rahm in Hawaii

No one ever finished a PGA Tour more shots under par than Cameron Smith, and he needed every one of them to outlast world No. 1 Jon Rahm and win the Tournament of Champions in Hawaii. In the best scoring conditions Kapalua has seen in the 24 times it has hosted the winnersonly start to the new year, Smith was relentless all the day down to the 3-foot birdie putt he made on the 18th hole for an 8-under 65 and a one-shot victory Sunday. Smith finished at 34-under 258, a tournament record by three shots. Ernie Els won at 31 under in 2003, and that was the PGA Tour record for shots under par. Three players beat that in this week on the western edge of Maui. Rahm, playing for the first time since Oct. 15, closed with a 66 to finish at 33 under. Matt Jones tied the Plantation course record at 61 — Justin Thomas and Rahm each shot 61 on Saturday - to finish third at 32 under. Until this week, only three players had ever finished a 72-hole event at 30 under or lower — Els in 2003, Jordan Spieth at Kapalua in 2016 and Dustin Johnson at rain-soaked Liberty National in 2020. Smith picked up his fourth PGA Tour victory — two were team titles in New Orleans — and became the sixth player to have won at both Hawaii stops on the PGA Tour.

#### Watt ties NFL season sack record



T.J. Watt has entered rare company in the NFL. His name is now at the top of the league's single-season sack list. The Steelers two-time All-Pro linebacker tied Hall of Famer Michael Strahan's mark of 22 1/2 sacks in a season during Sunday's 16-13 overtime victory againt the Ravens in Baltimore. Watt wrapped

up Ravens quarterback Tyler Huntley for a loss on a firstand-goal from the 3-yard line with 23 seconds left in the second quarter. The Ravens ended up settling for a field goal. Watt, 27, considered the favorite for defensive player of the year, also had three quarterback hits, a tackle for loss, a batted pass and a forced fumble to help the Steelers likely book a trip to the playoffs. Though Strahan set the record in a 16-game season, Watt only played in 15 regular-season games this year due to injury and illness. "It's definitely a cool thing," Watt said of breaking the record. "I don't know if any of it's really hit me." The NFL didn't keep track of sacks before the 1982 season. The unofficial record-holder is Al "Bubba" Baker, who had 23 sacks as a rookie for the Lions in 1978.

#### **Barty, Nadal win Aussie tuneups**

Top-ranked Ash Barty won her second Adelaide International title in three years with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over Elena Rybakina on Sunday. Rafael Nadal also added another title to his illustrious career, capturing at least one ATP title for the 19th consecutive year. The top-seeded Nadal beat American Maxime Cressy, 7-6 (6), 6-3 at Melbourne in one of six tournaments this week ahead of the Australian Open, the first Grand Slam of the year that begins Jan. 17. The Adelaide win improved Barty's record against top-20 rivals to 17-1 since the beginning of 2021. Barty also beat Coco Gauff, 2020 Australian Open champion Sofin Kenin and 2020 French Open winner Iga Swiatek en route to her 14th WTA tournament win. Barty is scheduled to play the Sydney Tennis Classic next week before the Australian Open begins on Jan. 17. In a WTA tournament at Melbourne, 20-year-old American Amanda Anisimova beat Aliaksandra Sasnovich of Belarus 7-5, 1-6, 6-4 to win her second WTA title. In other tournament finals Sunday, second-seeded Simona Halep beat Veronika Kudermetova 6-2, 6-3 to win the WTA 500 event in Melbourne, and in the Adelaide International men's final, Gael Monfils defeated Karen Khachanov 6-4, 6-4. -News services



Georgia's Warren Ericson, right, and Alabama's Slade Bolden battle during the SEC title game on Dec. 4 in Atlanta. APFILE

**CFP CHAMPIONSHIP** ANALYSIS

# Southern comfort

Whether the Tide or Dawgs capture the crown, one thing is clear: It's the SEC's world

# Why Alabama will win

If it's not easy beating a team a second time, it's likely

even harder to do it using the same formula. But No. 1 Alabama does have enough ways it can attack opposing defenses, even a dominant one like third-ranked Georgia has, to win the College Football Playoff championship game Monday night in Indianapolis.

The Crimson Tide features two of the top players in college football: Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback Bryce Young and linebacker Will Anderson. And Alabama's defense has proven to be quite formidable even if its been overshadowed at times.

The Alabama isn't shying away from the challenge beating a team twice in just over a month.

"I don't think it's tough having to play somebody twice," Tide defensive coordinator Pete Golding said. "I mean, I know everybody talks about that and all that. But if you look at the NFL, you're playing everybody in your division twice."

Georgia may have extra motivation coming out of the locker room. But Alabama has the confidence from having done it before.

The Tide dominated the Bulldogs 41-24 in the Southeastern Conference championship game with Young passing for 421 yards and a hobbled Brian Robinson Jr. running for 55.

Then the Tide clamped down on Cincinnati 27-6 in the Cotton Bowl. In that CFP semifinal, Young yielded the starring role. The sophomore passed for 181 yards, while Robinson's 204 rushing yards paved the way for the

An injury to wide receiver John Metchie III after nearly reaching 100 yards in the first half changed the offensive dynamics.

But freshman Ja'Corey Brooks and other receivers have shown flashes that could help them complement All-America receiver Jameson Williams in the rematch with Georgia along with veteran Slade Bolden. Tight ends Jahleel Billingsley and Cameron Latu are capable of making plays, too.

The Bulldogs, like most teams, had scant success containing Williams in the SEC title game. O'Brien and his offensive coaches have found ways to keep getting him the ball, often downfield.

Alabama's offensive line will play a significant role in the outcome. The unit has been strong since giving up seven sacks against Auburn. And it will have to be against Georgia's defensive front led by Jordan Davis.

Defensively, Alabama will be looking to slow down Bulldogs tight end Brock Bowers, who had 10 catches in Atlanta, and contain Georgia's running game.

The Crimson Tide are confident they'll be able to get in done. Nick Saban has had tremendous success making adjustments in a second meeting against a team, especially defensively.

The experience in tight contests another edge that could title the game in the Crimson Tide's favor. John Zenor, Associated Press

## Why Georgia will win

Former longtime Georgia coach Vince Dooley loves history — especially the kind he says favors his beloved

Dooley believes a rematch will work in Georgia's advantage against Alabama on Monday. Dooley also has faith Georgia's defense will fare better in its second chance

"In most cases, not all, it's tough to beat good teams again for the second time," Dooley told The Associated Press earlier this week. "I'm hopeful that's what is going to happen.

The psychological edge that comes with the rematch favors Georgia. The extra motivation helps, but the best reason to pick the Bulldogs is the defense which carried

the team all season. Dooley, 89, plans to attend the game after recently testing positive for COVID-19 but recovering from symptoms he said were "kind of like a cold. I'm OK and ready to go."

Dooley won 201 games Georgia's coach for 25 years, from 1964 to 1988. With Dooley as coach, Georgia won its last national championship in 1980, beating Notre Dame in the Sugar Bowl.

Dooley's 1982 team, led by Heisman Trophy winning tailback Herschel Walker, won its third consecutive SEC title and was undefeated before losing to Penn State in the Sugar Bowl.

This season's Bulldogs completed their first undefeated regular season since the 1982 team and were ranked No. 1 before before losing to Alabama 41-24 in the SEC championship game.

Georgia responded to the loss with an impressive 34-11 win over Michigan in the CFP semifinal Orange

The rout of Michigan stands as the Bulldogs' response to those who suspect they were exposed as overrated in their SEC championship game loss to Alabama.

The Bulldogs proved they indeed have a dominant defense, as they showed in the regular season. And history also is on their side.

Dooley cited several instances of teams winning SEC or national championships in rematches, including Alabama's second-chance win over LSU in the 2011 BCS national championship game. Dooley also recalled Georgia's 28-7 win over Auburn in the 2017 SEC championship game after losing to the Tigers in the regular season.

Smart said the inability to pressure Young in the

SEC championship game "wasn't for a lack of trying."

"And we brought a lot of different pressures," Smart said Monday. "They did a good job picking those pressures up. And at the end of the day, there's four or five guys that are one-on-one up there. Somebody's got to win one-on-one."

Georgia's defense won those battles all season. If Dooley's history lessons prove correct, the defense will help the Bulldogs end their 40-year national championship

– Charles Odum, Associated Press

## **CFP CHAMPIONSHIP** BREAKING IT DOWN No. 3 Georgia (13-1) No. 1 Alabama (13-1) vs.

8 p.m. Monday in Indianapolis, ESPN

**Line:** Georgia by 2 ½, according to FanDuel Sportsbook. Series record: Alabama leads 42-25-4.

#### WHAT'S AT STAKE?

Simple. The national championship. For Alabama, it would make the Crimson TIde the first team in the CFP era to earn back-to-back titles. The Crimson Tide last won consecutive titles in 2011-12. Under coach Nick Saban, Alabama has won six national championships in 14 years. Georgia, meanwhile, is trying to snap a seven-game losing streak against the Tide, win the school's first title in 41 years and swing the SEC's balance of power east.

#### **KEY MATCHUP**

Georgia's pass defense vs. Alabama QB Bryce Young: When these teams met in last month's SEC title game, Young carved up a seemingly invincible defense for 421 yards and three touchdowns despite losing star receiver John Metchie III for the second half. Metchie (knee) remains out. Young wasn't sacked and the Crimson Tide finished with no turnovers against the Bulldogs. Georgia needs to corral the Heisman Trophy winner and still be stout enough to slow down an offense that ran for more than 300 yards

in a semifinal victory against No. 4 Cincinnati in the Cotton

#### **PLAYERS TO WATCH**

Georgia: DT Jordan Davis and LB Nakobe Dean, the awardwinning stars of the Bulldogs' dominant defense. Davis, the 340-pound Outland Trophy winner, is the leader of the Bulldogs' run stuffers. Dean, the Butkus Award winner, needs to replicate the stellar performance he had against Michigan in the Orange Bowl and get Georgia into the proper defensive alignments.

Alabama: WR Jameson Williams. The Ohio State transfer has been the ultimate game-breaker for Alabama. The junior averages 20 yards per catch with 15 touchdowns and he burned Georgia for 184 yards and two scores in the first meeting.

## **FACTS & FIGURES**

Georgia coach Kirby Smart is 0-4 against his former mentor. Saban. ... Saban is 25-1 all-time against former assistants but the lone loss came in October against Texas A&M coach Jimbo Fisher. ... The Bulldogs have appeared in only one other CFP title game, losing to Alabama in overtime in January 2018. ... The Crimson Tide has won 34 consecutive games against SEC East foes, dating to an October 2010 loss at No. 19 South Carolina. ... Georgia allows 9.6 points, best in the nation, while scoring 39.0 points (ninth nationally).... Saban's 29 wins over top-five teams is an FBS record. ... Georgia QB Stetson Bennett IV ranks fourth nationally in passing efficiency at 176.8 and could break Aaron Murray's single-season school record (174.8 in 2012).

... TE Brock Bowers broke Georgia's school record for TD catches in a season (12) en route to earning SEC freshman of the year honors. ... Alabama OLB Will Anderson Jr. leads country in sacks (17 1/2) and tackles for loss (33 ½).... Monday marks the first time Alabama and Georgia will meet outside their respective states. The 2018 title game was played in Atlanta.

## **Team statistics**

realif statistics		
Category	Alabama	Georgia
SCORING		
Total points per game	41.4	39.0
Total points	580	546
Total touchdowns	74	69
1ST DOWNS		
Total 1st downs	345	319
Rushing 1st downs	125	143
Passing 1st downs	200	152
1st downs by penalty	20	24
3rd down efficiency	108-205	73-160
3rd down %	52.7	45.6
4th down efficiency	9-16	8-14
4th down %	56.3	57.1
PASSING		
Comp-att	345-514	247-381
Net passing yards	4,704	3.554
Yards per pass attempt	9.2	9.3
Net passing YPG	336.0	253.9
Passing touchdowns	47	37
Interceptions	5	12
Sacks-yards lost	37-239	11-75
RUSHING		
Rushing attempts	520	515
Rushing yards	2,220	2,724
Yards per rush attempt	4.3	5.3
Rushing yards per game	158.6	194.6
Rushing touchdowns	21	28
OFFENSE		
Total offensive plays	1,071	907
Total yards	6.924	6,278
Yards per game	494.6	448.4
KICKING		
Net average punt yards	36.6	41.2
Punt: Total yards	45-1,730	42-1,974
FG: Good-attempts	19-24	20-25
Touchback percentage	55	73
TIME OF POSSESSION		
Possession time average	32:26	30:42
MISCELLANEOUS		
Fumbles-lost	16-6	13-4

BILLS 27, JETS 10

# Bills clinch AFC East title with victory over Jets

By John Wawrow Associated Press

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — The Buffalo Bills clinched their second consecutive AFC East title after Devin Singletary scored twice in the final 8:21 in a 27-10 win over the New York Jets on Sunday.

The Bills (11-6) enter the playoffs as the conference's third seed, but had to await the outcome of the late game between the Los Angeles Chargers and Las Vegas Raiders to determine who they'll host in the wild-card playoff round next weekend. The game wasn't over in time for this edition.

Buffalo would face the Chargers with an LA victory over Las Vegas. A Raiders victory would pit Buffalo against the division-rival Patriots.

The Bills actually moved up a spot in the conference standings, jumping ahead of Cincinnati after the Bengals (10-7) lost to Cleveland earlier in the day.

The Bills limited the Jets to a franchise-low 53 yards of total offense and four first downs - the fewest allowed by Buffalo in franchise history. Buffalo also sacked Jets rookie Zach Wilson nine times, the most by Buffalo since getting 10 in a 23-0 win over Washington on Oct. 20, 2011.

The outcome, however, wasn't decided until the final quarter on an afternoon in which wind gusts of up to 30 mph played havoc with



Jets rookie quarterback Zach Wilson was sacked nine times by the Bills on Sunday. JOSHUA BESSEX/AP

the passing and kicking games. In a game the Bills never trailed, Singletary broke things open by scoring on a consecutive drives

Singletary put the Bills up 20-10

by scoring on a 1-yard run to cap a seven-play 51-yard drive with 8:21 remaining. He followed that by catching a 5-yard TD pass from Josh Allen.

It was Singletary's second

consecutive two-touchdown outing, which gives him six TDs in his past four games.

The Bills clinched their first division title at home since 1995. Security officials guarded against fans rushing the field by dismantling the goalposts in the west end. while also guarding the goalposts on the other side of the field.

Allen was 24 of 45 for 239 yards and two touchdowns, including a 10-yard touchdown pass to Stefon Diggs on Buffalo's game-opening

The Jets (4-13), under firsttime head coach Robert Saleh, completed their sixth consecutive losing season — and fifth with five or fewer wins in extending their playoff drought to a franchise record-matching 11th consecutive year. It's also the longest active streak in the NFL.

Credit the Jets for not running for the bus in having long ago been eliminated from playoff contention. While their offense sputtered, the Jets defense held Buffalo to 13 points and forced five three-andouts through three quarters.

The Jets' offense was also depleted by injuries in missing receivers Elijah Moore (quadriceps), Corey Davis (core muscle) and Braxton Berrios (quadriceps), and then lost Jamison Crowder in the second quarter to a calf injury.

Wilson finished 7 of 20 for 87 yards, with a 40-yard touchdown pass to Keelan Cole, which cut the score to 10-7 with 3:51 left in the second quarter. The No. 2 draft pick finished the season not throwing an interception over his final five games.

#### **WASHINGTON 22, GIANTS 7**

# Washington beats Giants on Gibson TD run, McCain's 2 interceptions

**By Tom Canavan** Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. After a final month marred by COVID-19 issues, a fight on the field, a tragic automobile accident involving a passenger in a car driven by a fellow player and a losing streak, Washington had something to feel good about after its last game.

Antonio Gibson ran for a career-high 146 yards, scored a touchdown and capped his first 1,000-yard rushing season by leading Washington to a 22-7 victory over New York on Sunday in what might have been Dave Gettleman's final game as the Giants' general manager.

Jake Fromm's 22-yard touchdown pass to Darius Slayton in the fourth quarter was the only highlight for the Giants (4-13), who finished a miserable second season under coach Joe Judge with a six-game losing streak.

Gettleman's four-year tenure as GM is likely over after a fourth-straight double-digit losing season. This one was marked by injuries, including one that sidelined quarterback Daniel Jones the last six weeks.

Neither Gettleman nor the team's ownership spoke after

Judge's status depends on what co-owners John Mara and Steve Tisch want. He has a group that plays hard, but just doesn't have enough talent — particularly on the offensive line.

Judge plans to meet with them this week. He refused to speculate on his future. He declined to discuss a hypothetical on working with a new general manager. He was blunt about the season, which came after the team went 6-10 in his first year and missed the playoffs by a game.

"Ultimately, it wasn't good enough," Judge said. "And my

focus right now is already on next season immediately and changing everything. We have to make every necessary adjust-

Coach Ron Rivera's major regret after Washington (7-10) ended a season that saw his team go from a division champion to an also-ran was the late fourgame losing streak. His team was in position to make a playoff run if it could string together some

"If we had, we could be waiting to see what happens later on today," Rivera said. "And that's unfortunate. The best thing about it was the way guys rallied around each other, came out and played for one another and really set the tempo and the tone going into the offseason and into next

Bobby McCain returned the first of his two interceptions 30 yards for a touchdown, and Joey Slye kicked three field goals for Washington.

Gibson carried the load with his cutback runs on stretch plays. He finished the season with 1,037 yards, highlighted by a game-clinching 18-yard TD after New York got within 12-7 in the fourth quarter on Fromm's first NFL touchdown pass.

"I'm putting it out there on the field," Gibson said. "I feel like with what I'm doing, I can be in this league for a long time as I want to be one of the greats. I've got a long road ahead of me. I've just got to keep pounding."

Slye's field goals of 23 and 43 yards gave Washington a 6-0 halftime lead and McCain's interception return made it 12-0 in the third quarter. Washington failed on a 2-point try.

Fromm's first NFL TD pass got New York within five points early in the fourth quarter, but Washington came right back behind its running game (226 yards).

# **PATRIOTS**

# Pats, doomed by another slow start, look ahead to playoffs

By Tim Reynolds Associated Press

MIAMI GARDENS, Fla. Matthew Slater quickly sounded

The consistent thread in the final three New England losses of the regular season — all of which came in the Patriots' final four games was slow starts, and another one doomed them Sunday in a 33-24 defeat at Miami.

So, a few minutes after the Dolphins game was over, the veteran receiver and locker room leader made it clear: The slow starts have to end, or the season probably will end much sooner than the Patriots would like.

"Whether it's energy, focus, execution, you name it, we're not doing anything well enough early in the games to give ourselves a chance to get in a rhythm and remain competitive early on," Slater said. "And obviously, it's tough playing from behind — and now the next team we play will be the best team we've seen all year. So, if we play like that, it'll be really challenging

for us." He said that without even knowing if the Patriots were heading to Buffalo or Cincinnati for a wild-card game next weekend, because it was irrelevant. A slow start in the regular season, that's bad. A slow start in the playoffs makes it that much tougher to win and advance.

His teammates were likely listen-

"It's a new season," tight end Hunter Henry said. "It really is. Everything is on the line now."

Added rookie quarterback Mac Jones: "We have to play better."

A 14-0 deficit midway through the first quarter on Sunday set the tone, even though New England



Dolphins wide receiver Jaylen Waddle catches a touchdown pass against the Patriots in the first half Sunday at Hard Rock Stadium. JOHN MCCALL/ SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL

rallied in the final minutes to get within three — before giving up a touchdown to Miami's defense on the final play of the Dolphins' season. It was reminiscent in some ways of falling behind 20-7 to Buffalo and 20-0 to Indianapolis, both in December, both becoming losses after futile comeback tries.

"Wasn't good enough today," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said. "Leave it at that."

The Patriots' troubles were not limited to the slow start.

They could have gotten the ball back at the end of the third quarter after forcing Miami to punt on fourth-and-1 from the Dolphins 33. Down 24-10, it was not the time for New England to make a mistake. And that's exactly what was

Defensive end Lawrence Guy was flagged for illegal formation, the 5 yards being 4 more than Miami needed for a drive-extending first down. The Dolphins' offense remained on the field and more time ticked, ticked away for the

Patriots and their comeback hopes. The penalty proved costly. Jason Sanders kicked a 49-yard field goal with 10:55 left, giving the Dolphins a 27-10 lead — a three-possession margin that cost the Patriots four valuable minutes as well.

## **Patriots**

from Page 1

finished with a winning record for the second consecutive season and once again didn't have a playoff berth to show for it.

The Patriots have played in wild-card games before under Belichick — but have never been to the playoffs in the Belichick era as a wild card. All 17 of the previous playoff appearances in his years there have come after a division

Until now.

That streak didn't end easily,

New England needed only eight minutes to cut a 27-10 fourth-quarter deficit to 27-24. Mac Jones connected with Bolden for an 18-yard score on a screen to get New England within 10. Damien Harris rumbled in from a yard out a few minutes later, and just like that the Patriots were within three.

"I think it says a lot about our character," Patriots receiver Matthew Slater said. "We're not going to quit, but you know as well as I do, at this time of year, going out there and competing to the end doesn't mean anything if you don't have more points than the other team."

Miami took over with 2:53 remaining, on its 25, with no timeouts and Tagovailoa having thrown for the grand total of 2 yards in the second half.

He wound up sealing matters with his feet. Facing third-and-8 from his 42 with just inside of two minutes to go and New England poised to get the ball back, Tagovailoa scrambled for 11 yards.

First down. "He got to show off his speed a

little bit," Waddle said. And soon, game over.

"We just beat a tough team," said Tagovailoa, who passed for 109 yards. "All week, that's what we've been harping on. We wanted to end this season with a bang, and that's what we went out there and

Jones completed 20 of 30 passes for 261 yards for New England. The Patriots got the ball back with 3 seconds left, needing 98 yards for a score, and Miami's Sam Eguaoven was credited with recovering a fumble that became a game-ending touchdown after a lateral went awry.

"Just proud of this team," Dolphins coach Brian Flores said. "I'm proud of their fight, their resiliency, their ability to deal and battle adversity. We've had ups and downs. It's a year I'll certainly remember. But yes, very proud of this team."

It was 14-0 Miami in a flash. Waddle entered Sunday three catches from breaking Anguan Boldin's NFL rookie record of 101 grabs set in 2003 — and the Dolphins got him that in their first four plays. He capped the drive with his sixth touchdown of the year, catching a 7-yard pass from Tagovailoa to opening the scoring.

## **Injury report**

Patriots: OL Isaiah Wynn injured an ankle in the second quarter. He walked up the tunnel leading to the locker room without much difficulty. ... RB Rhamondre Stevenson (head) and DB Sean Davis (shoulder) also had first-half injuries. DL Christian Barmore was hurt on the Tagovailoa scramble with 1:48 remaining.

**Dolphins:** S Eric Rowe limped off in the third quarter with a back injury and didn't return.



Washington running back Antonio Gibson, who rushed for a career-high 146 yards, scores a fourth-quarter touchdown against the Giants on Sunday in East Rutherford, N.J. FRANK FRANKLIN II/AP

## **AFC**

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
x-Buffalo	11	6	0	.647	483	289	6-3-0	5-3-0	7-5-0	4-1-0	5-1-0
x-New England	10	7	0	.588	462	303	4-5-0	6-2-0	8-4-0	2-3-0	3-3-0
e-Miami	9	8	0	.529	341	373	6-3-0	3-5-0	6-6-0	3-2-0	4-2-0
e-N.Y. Jets	4	13	0	.235	310	504	3-6-0	1-7-0	4-8-0	0-5-0	0-6-0
South	w	L	т	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
*-Tennessee	12	5	0	.706	419	354	7-2-0	5-3-0	8-4-0	4-1-0	5-1-0
e-Indianapolis	9	8	0	.529	451	365	4-5-0	5-3-0	7-5-0	2-3-0	3-3-0
e-Houston	4	13	0	.235	280	452	2-7-0	2-6-0	4-8-0	0-5-0	3-3-0
e-Jacksonville	3	14	0	.176	253	457	3-6-0	0-8-0	3-9-0	0-5-0	1-5-0
North	w	L	Т	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
<b>North</b> y-Cincinnati	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b> 7	<b>T</b>	Pct .588	<b>PF</b> 460	<b>PA</b> 376	<b>Home</b> 5-4-0	<b>Away</b> 5-3-0	<b>AFC</b> 8-4-0	<b>NFC</b> 2-3-0	<b>Div</b> 4-2-0
y-Cincinnati	10	7	0	.588	460	376	5-4-0	5-3-0	8-4-0	2-3-0	4-2-0
y-Cincinnati Pittsburgh	10 9	7 7	0	.588 .559	460 343	376 398	5-4-0 6-2-1	5-3-0 3-5-0	8-4-0 7-5-0	2-3-0 2-2-1	4-2-0 4-2-0
y-Cincinnati Pittsburgh e-Baltimore	10 9 8	7 7 9	0 1 0	.588 .559 .471	460 343 387	376 398 392	5-4-0 6-2-1 5-4-0	5-3-0 3-5-0 3-5-0	8-4-0 7-5-0 5-7-0	2-3-0 2-2-1 3-2-0	4-2-0 4-2-0 1-5-0
y-Cincinnati Pittsburgh e-Baltimore e-Cleveland	10 9 8 8	7 7 9 9	0 1 0	.588 .559 .471 .471	460 343 387 349	376 398 392 371	5-4-0 6-2-1 5-4-0 6-3-0	5-3-0 3-5-0 3-5-0 2-6-0	8-4-0 7-5-0 5-7-0 5-7-0	2-3-0 2-2-1 3-2-0 3-2-0	4-2-0 4-2-0 1-5-0 3-3-0
y-Cincinnati Pittsburgh e-Baltimore e-Cleveland West	10 9 8 8	7 7 9 9	0 1 0 0	.588 .559 .471 .471 <b>Pct</b>	460 343 387 349 <b>PF</b>	376 398 392 371 PA	5-4-0 6-2-1 5-4-0 6-3-0 <b>Home</b>	5-3-0 3-5-0 3-5-0 2-6-0 Away	8-4-0 7-5-0 5-7-0 5-7-0	2-3-0 2-2-1 3-2-0 3-2-0 NFC	4-2-0 4-2-0 1-5-0 3-3-0
y-Cincinnati Pittsburgh e-Baltimore e-Cleveland  West y-Kansas City	10 9 8 8 <b>W</b> 12	7 7 9 9 • • •	0 1 0 0 <b>T</b>	.588 .559 .471 .471 <b>Pct</b> .706	460 343 387 349 <b>PF</b> 480	376 398 392 371 <b>PA</b> 364	5-4-0 6-2-1 5-4-0 6-3-0 <b>Home</b> 7-2-0	5-3-0 3-5-0 3-5-0 2-6-0 <b>Away</b> 5-3-0	8-4-0 7-5-0 5-7-0 5-7-0 <b>AFC</b> 7-5-0	2-3-0 2-2-1 3-2-0 3-2-0 <b>NFC</b> 5-0-0	4-2-0 4-2-0 1-5-0 3-3-0 <b>Div</b> 5-1-0

#### **ROUNDUP**

# Titans top seed in AFC

Associated Press

The Titans clinched the top seed in the AFC for the first time in 14 years, beating the Texans 28-25 on Sunday in Houston behind quarterback Ryan Tannehill's career-high-tying four touchdown passes.

The 12-5 Titans, who secured their second straight AFC South title last week, have the No. 1 seed in the AFC for the third time since leaving Houston in 1997 and first since 2008.

Tannehill threw three TD passes in the second quarter to put the Titans up 21-0 at halftime.

But the Texans (4-13) came alive in the second half and twice cut the lead to 3 in the fourth quarter.

Steelers 16, Ravens 13: Chris Boswell made a 36-yard FG with 1:56 remaining in OT to win the game for the

visiting Steelers, who were positioned to make the playoffs as long as the Chargers-Raiders game Sunday night didn't end in a tie. That game ended too late for this edition.

Bills 27, Jets 10: The host Bills clinched their second consecutive AFC East title after RB Devin Singletary scored twice in the final 8:21. Jaguars 26, Colts 11: The Colts botched a chance to secure an AFC wild-card spot by suffering their seventh consecutive road loss to the Jaguars. And they were eliminated from postseason contention when the Steelers won their game. Rushing champ Jonathan Taylor was held to 77 yards and Carson Wentz turned the ball over twice – leading to 10 points. **Buccaneers 41, Panthers 17:** Tom Brady topped 5,000

three TDs and the host Bucs set a franchise record for regular-season victories (13) and secured the No. 2 seed in the NFC playoffs.

**49ers 27, Rams 24:** Robbie Gould's 24-yard FG with 2:45 left in OT and Ambry Thomas' game-ending INT lifted the visiting 49ers over the NFC West champion Rams and into the playoffs. Seahawks 38, Cardinals 30:

host Cardinals. Saints 30, Falcons 20: The visiting Saints topped the Falcons but just missed making the playoffs after the 49ers' win over the Rams.

The Seahawks spoiled a shot

at the NFC West title for the

Lions 37. Packers 30: Aaron Rodgers tossed two TD passes and then sat out the second half with nothing at stake for the Packers as the Lions earned the win at home. The Packers had already clinched the top seed in the NFC.

**NFC** 

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
y-Dallas	12	5	0	.706	530	358	5-3-0	7-2-0	2-3-0	10-2-0	6-0-0
Philadelphia	9	8	0	.529	444	385	3-5-0	6-3-0	2-3-0	7-5-0	3-3-0
e-Washington	7	10	0	.412	335	434	3-5-0	4-5-0	1-4-0	6-6-0	2-4-0
e-N.Y. Giants	4	13	0	.235	258	416	3-5-0	1-8-0	1-4-0	3-9-0	1-5-0
South	w	L	т	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
y-Tampa Bay	13	4	0	.765	511	353	7-1-0	6-3-0	5-0-0	8-4-0	4-2-0
New Orleans	9	8	0	.529	364	335	3-5-0	6-3-0	2-3-0	7-5-0	4-2-0
e-Atlanta	7	10	0	.412	313	459	2-6-0	5-4-0	3-2-0	4-8-0	2-4-0
e-Carolina	5	12	0	.294	304	404	2-6-0	3-6-0	2-3-0	3-9-0	2-4-0
North	w	L	т	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
*-Green Bay	13	4	0	.765	450	371	8-0-0	5-4-0	4-1-0	9-3-0	4-2-0
e-Minnesota	8	9	0	.471	425	426	5-3-0	3-6-0	2-3-0	6-6-0	4-2-0
e-Chicago	6	11	0	.353	311	407	3-5-0	3-6-0	2-3-0	4-8-0	2-4-0
e-Detroit	3	13	1	.206	325	467	3-5-0	0-8-1	0-4-1	3-9-0	2-4-0
West	w	L	т	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
x-L.A. Rams	12	5	0	.706	460	372	5-3-0	7-2-0	4-1-0	8-4-0	3-3-0
x-L.A. Rams x-Arizona	12 11	5 6	0	.706 .647	460 449	372 366	5-3-0 3-5-0	7-2-0 8-1-0	4-1-0 4-1-0	8-4-0 7-5-0	
											3-3-0 4-2-0 2-4-0
x-Arizona	11	6	0	.647	449	366	3-5-0	8-1-0	4-1-0	7-5-0	4-2-0

 $e-Eliminated\ from\ playoffs x-clinched\ playoff\ spoty-clinched\ division *-clinched\ home-field\ advantage$ 



Jeffery Simmons celebrates a sack during the Titans' 28-25 victory over the Texans on Sunday. ERIC CHRISTIAN SMITH/AP

Browns 21, Bengals 16: QB Case Keenum earned his second victory, filling in for Baker Mayfield as the Browns ended their dismal season with a victory over the AFC North champs, who left QB Joe Burrow at home and played their backups.

Vikings 31, Bears 17: Kirk Cousins passed for 172 yards and three TDs in the second half to lead the host Vikings to the win.

Washington 22, Giants 7: Antonio Gibson ran for a career-high 146 yards, with a TD, and capped his first 1,000-yard rushing season by lifting WFT on the road. **Dolphins 33, Patriots 24:** Jaylen Waddle had a TD grab and set the NFL record for receptions in a rookie year with 104, Duke Johnson rushed for 117 yards and the host Dolphins finished their season by beating the

#### **WEEK 18**

SUNDAY'S RESULTS Cleveland 21, Cincinnati 16 Detroit 37, Green Bay 30 Jacksonville 26, Indianapolis 11 Minnesota 31, Chicago 17 Pittsburgh 16, Baltimore 13 (OT) Tennessee 28, Houston 25 Washington 22, N.Y. Giants 7 Buffalo 27, N.Y. Jets 10 Miami 33, New England 24 New Orleans 30, Atlanta 20 San Francisco 27, L.A. Rams 24 (OT) Seattle 38, Arizona 30 Tampa Bay 41, Carolina 17 L.A. Chargers at Las Vegas, late

SATURDAY'S RESULTS Kansas City 28, Denver 24 Dallas 51, Philadelphia 26

#### PLAYOFF SCHEDULE

**SATURDAY, JAN 15** AFC/NFC Wild-Card Round, 4:35pm AFC/NFC Wild-Card Round, 8:15pm

**SUNDAY, JAN 16** AFC/NFC Wild-Card Round, 1:05pm AFC/NFC Wild-Card Round, 4:40pm AFC/NFC Wild-Card Round, 8:15pm

**MONDAY, JAN 17** AFC/NFC Wild-Card Round, 8:15pm

**SATURDAY, JAN 22** AFC Divisional Round, TBA NFC Divisional Round, TBA

**SUNDAY, JAN 23** AFC Divisional Round, TBA NFC Divisional Round, TBA

**SUNDAY, JAN 30** AFC Championship Game, 3:05pm NFC Championship Game, 6:40pm

SUNDAY, FEB 13 Super Bowl LVI, SoFi Stadium Inglewood, Calif., 6:30pm

#### SUMMARIES

**TAMPA BAY 41. CAROLINA 17 First Ouarter** Car: Hubbard 2pass from Darnold (Hajrullahu kick), 7:22. **Second Ouarter TB:** FG Succop 39, 11:09. **TB:** Bell 1pass from Brady (Succop **Third Quarter** TB: Vaughn 2run (Succop kick), 11:57. Car: FG Hairullahu 35, 4:44. Fourth Ouarter TB: Evans 3pass from Brady (Succop kick), 14:56. Car: Anderson 19pass from Darnold (Hajrullahu kick), 10:34. TB: Evans 20pass from Brady (Succop

**TB:** FG Succop 40, 5:04.

**TEAM STATS** CAR First downs 18 21 Total net yards 317 409 20-85 Rushes-yards Passing 207 324 1-4 3-75 Punt returns Kickoff returns Interceptions ret. 0-0 1-17 Comp-att-int Sacked-yards lost 29-43-1 29-39-0 2-12 1-2 2-42.5 3-44.333 Punts 1-1 1-10 0-0 2-10 Fumbles-lost Penalties-yards Time of possession 35:05 24:55

TB: S.Miller 33run (Succop kick), 4:07.

**RUSHING:** Carolina, Hubbard 9-48, Abdullah 7-26, Darnold 8-19, DJ.Moore 1-13, Tremble 1-4. Tampa Bay, Miller 2-43, Vaughn 10-29, Bell 3-14, Barner 4-0. Gabbert 1-(minus 1). PASSING: Carolina, Darnold 29-42-1-219, Zylstra 0-1-0-0. Tampa Bay, Brady 29-37-0-326. Gabbert 0-2-0-0. RECEIVING: Carolina, Abdullah 9-56, DJ.Moore 7-87, Anderson 7-50, Saunders 2-11, Hubbard 2-8, Tremble 2-7. Tampa Bay, Gronkowski 7-137, Evans 6-89, Perriman 5-44, Johnson 5-22, Brate 2-12, Vaughn 2-12, Miller 1-9, Bell 1-1. MISSED FIELD GOALS: TB, Succop 46.

**WASHINGTON 22, N.Y. GIANTS 7** 3 3 6 10 - 22 0 0 0 7 - 7 First Quarter Was: FG Slye 23, 9:03. Second Quarter Was: FG Slye 43, :00. Third Quarter
Was: McCain 30interception return (pass failed), 3:41. **Fourth Quarter** NYG: Slayton 22pass from Fromm (Gano kick), 11:24. Was: Gibson 18run (Slye kick), 6:28. Was: FG Slye 23, 4:40.

A: 69.923.

NYG First downs 16 10 177 25-94 Total net yards 325 Rushes-yards 83 Passing 99 1-16 4-94 Punt returns 4-23 Kickoff returns 0-0 Interceptions ret. 2-39 Comp-att-int Sacked-yards lost 9-18-0 15-31-2 3-21 3-20 Punts 6-40.833 6-51.0 Fumbles-lost 2-0 3-29 1-1 3-21 Penalties-yards Time of possession 32:17 27:43

RUSHING: Washington, Gibson 21-146, Williams 7-45, Patterson 6-21, Carter 1-11, Heinicke 2-3, N.Y. Giants, Fromm 5-53, Barkley 11-30, Booker 8-14, Bach-

man 1-(minus 3). **PASSING:** Washington, Heinicke 9-18-0-120. N.Y. Giants, Fromm 15-31-2-103. **RECEIVING:** Washington, McLaurin 4-93, Patterson 2-14, Bates 1-5, Gibson 1-5, Humphries 1-3. N.Y. Giants, Rudolph 4-17, Golladay 3-22, Barkley 3-19, Slayton 2-29, Booker 2-12, Engram 1-4. TACKLES-ASSISTS-SACKS: Was, Holcomb 6-5-0, Payne 5-1-0, Davis 3-5-0. N.Y. Giants, Carter 6-4-1, X.McKinney 6-2-0, Ryan 5-2-10, L.Williams

INTERCEPTIONS: Washington, McCain 2-39. MISSED FIELD GOALS: None.

**MINNESOTA 31, CHICAGO 17** 3 11 3 0 - 17 0 3 7 21 - 31 Chicago Minnesota First Quarter Chi: FG Santos 43, 12:09. Second Quarter

yards passing for the second

time in his career, tossed

Chi: FG Santos 46, 4:55 Chi: Williams 23pass from Dalton (A.Robinson pass from Dalton), :31. Min: FG G.Joseph 39, :00. Min: Smith-Marsette 44pass from

Cousins (G.Joseph kick), 12:24. Chi: FG Santos 42, 1:37. Fourth Quarter Min: Jefferson 45pass from Cousins (G.Joseph kick), 13:35. Min: Osborn 21pass from Cousins (G.Joseph kick), 8:04.

Min: Peterson 66interception return (G.Joseph kick), 4:54.

TEAM STATS MIN CHI 22-104 Rushes-yards 25-90 Passing Punt returns 266 4-47 227 0-0 Kickoff returns 1-36 2-38 Interceptions ret. Comp-att-int 0-0 33-48-2 14-22-0 Sacked-yards lost 7-59 3-23 1-43.0 6-45.333 0-0 1-0 Punts Fumbles-lost 4-47 Penalties-yards 2-10 Time of possession 23:13

RUSHING: Chicago, Montgomery 20-72. Herbert 4-11, Dalton 1-7. Minnesota, Cook 14-79, Mattison 5-18, Jefferson 1-4, Nwangwu 1-4, Cousins 1-(minus 1). PASSING: Chicago, Dalton 33-48-2-325. Minnesota, Cousins 14-22-0-250. RECEIVING: Chicago, Mooney 12-126, Byrd 5-47, Kmet 4-48, Williams 3-33, Robinson 2-22, J.Graham 2-16, Goodwin 2-13, Montgomery 2-7, Newsome 1-13. Minnesota, Jefferson 5-107, Smith-Mar-sette 3-103, Conklin 2-6, Osborn 1-21, Ham 1-7, Cook 1-3, Mattison 1-3. INTERCEPTIONS: Minnesota, Peterson

**NEW ORLEANS 30, ATLANTA 20** New Orleans 7 17 0 6 - 30 Atlanta 3 3 7 7 - 20 **First Ouarter** NO: Trautman 18pass from Hill (Maher kick), 8:29. **Atl:** FG Koo 48, 3:15. Second Quarter
Atl: FG Koo 54, 10:31.
NO: T.Smith 13pass from Siemian (Maher kick), 5:47. **NO:** FG Maher 37, 1:03. NO: Johnson 5pass from Siemian (Maher kick),:02. Third Quarter Atl: Ollison 19run (Koo kick), 2:49. Fourth Quarter NO: FG Maher 27, 10:55.

NO: FG Maher 33, 7:36.

Atl: Gage 1pass from Ryan (Koo kick), NΩ TEAM STATS First downs 13 257 Total net vards 369 46-195 174 12-62 195 Rushes-yards Passing Punt returns 0-0 1-12 4-93 0-0 Kickoff returns 3-41 Interceptions ret. Comp-att-int Sacked-yards lost 16-24-0 20-33-1 3-21 2-46.5 Punts Fumbles-lost 2-0 3-2 Penalties-yards Time of possession 4-40 4-36 20:43

**RUSHING:** New Orleans, Kamara 30-146, Jones 7-22, Hill 5-18, Harris 1-9. Prentice 1-1. Siemian 2-(minus 1). Atlanta, Davis 6-30, Ollison 1-19, Patterson 4-11, Ryan 1-2. **PASSING:** NO, Hill 7-9-0-107, Siemian 9-15-0-71. Atl, Ryan 20-33-1-216. **RECEIVING:** New Orleans, Smith 5-76, Harris 3-24, Kamara 2-16, Humphrey 1-26, Trautman 1-18, Vannett 1-10, Johnson 1-5, Prentice 1-2, Montgomery 1-1. Atlanta, Gage 9-126, Zaccheaus 3-47, Davis 3-(minus 2), K.Pitts 2-8, Hurst 1-33, K.Smith 1-3, Patterson 1-1. MISSED FIELD GOALS: New Orleans.

MIAMI 33, NEW ENGLAND 24 New England 0 7 3 14 - 24 Miami 14 3 7 9 - 33 First Quarter Mia: Waddle 7pass from Tagovailoa (Sanders kick), 7:34. Mia: Howard 37interception return (Sanders kick), 6:07. Second Ouarter Mia: FG Sanders 30, 11:09. NE: Bolden 15run (Folk kick), 7:36. **Third Quarter** NE: FG Folk 43, 8:27. Mia: D.Johnson 1run (Sanders kick),

Fourth Quarter Mia: FG Sanders 49, 10:55.

Penalties-yards

Time of possession

kick), 6:32. NE: Harris 1run (Folk kick), 2:53. Mia: Eguavoen Ofumble return, :00. TEAM STATS First downs 23 Total net yards Rushes-yards 379 27-134 298 43-195 Passing 245 103 Punt returns 2-20 Kickoff returns 1-24 2-38 Interceptions ret. 0-0 1-37 Comp-att-int 20-30-1 15-22-0 Sacked-yards lost 2-16 1-6 3-46.0 4-52.25 Punts 2-0 8-78 Fumbles-lost

5-33 33:36

26:24

NE: Bolden 18pass from M.Jones (Folk

RUSHING: New England, Bolden 7-46, Harris 11-37, Stevenson 4-34, Bourne 1-8, Smith 1-5, M.Jones 3-4. Miami, D.Johnson 25-117, Lindsay 11-40, Tagov ailoa 5-38, Palardy 1-1, Gaskin 1-(-1) PASSING: New England, M.Jones 20-30-1-261. Miami, Tagovailoa 15-22-0-109. RECEIVING: New England, Henry 5-86. Meyers 4-70, Harris 4-36, Bourne 3-24, Bolden 2-20, Agholor 1-23, Stevenson 1-2. Miami, Waddle 5-27, Gaskin 3-11, Smythe 2-32, Gesicki 2-22, Parker 2-12,

D.Johnson 1-5.
TACKLES-ASSISTS-SACKS: NE, Bentley 9-8-0, Van Noy 3-3-1. Miami, Wilkins 6-1-1, Van Ginkel 5-1-1. INTERCEPTIONS: Miami, Howard 1-37.

JACKSONVILLE 26, INDIANAPOLIS 11 Indianapolis Jacksonville 0 3 0 8 - 11 7 6 10 3 - 26 First Quarter
Jac: Treadwell 2pass from Lawrence (Wright kick), 7:48. Second Quarter Ind: FG Badgley 41, 9:08. Jac: FG Wright 22, 3:06. Jac: FG Wright 20, :00. Third Quarter Jac: FG Wright 39, 11:32. Jac: M.Jones 3pass from Lawrence (Wright kick), 3:08. Fourth Quarter Jac: FG Wright 31, 8:15. Ind: Pittman 12pass from Wentz (Pittman pass from Wentz), 4:26.

TEAM STATS	IND	JAC
First downs	13	19
Total net yards	233	318
Rushes-yards	18-94	31-101
Passing	139	217
Punt returns	1-7	0-0
Kickoff returns	3-101	0-0
Interceptions ret.	0-0	1-0
Comp-att-int	17-29-1	23-32-0
Sacked-yards lost	6-46	1-6
Punts	2-39.0	3-50.667
Fumbles-lost	3-1	0-0
Penalties-yards	4-52	6-49
Time of possession	26:41	33:19

RUSHING: Indianapolis, Taylor 15-77, Wentz 3-17. Jacksonville, Armstead 9-52, Ogunbowale 11-30, Lawrence 10-17, Sargent 1-2. **PASSING:** Ind, Wentz 17-29-1-185. Jax, Lawrence 23-32-0-223.

RECEIVING: Indianapolis, Pittman
6-64, Taylor 3-18, Hilton 2-39, Alie-Cox 2-27, Hines 2-19, Doyle 1-11, Pascal 1-7. Jacksonville, M.Jones 7-88, Shenault 5-62, Ogunbowale 3-25, Treadwell 3-24. Hollister 3-14. Armstead 2-10. TACKLES-ASSISTS-SACKS: Ind, K.Moore 8-2-0, Muhammad 2-2-1. Jax, Campbell 6-2-0, Gotsis 4-0-1, J.Allen 3-1-2, Wilson 2-3-1, Brown 1-1-1. INTERCEPTIONS: Jax, Wilson 1-1.

**BUFFALO 27, N.Y. JETS 10** N.Y. Jets 0 7 3 0 - 10 10 3 0 14 - 27 **Buffalo** First Quarter Buf: Diggs 10pass from Allen (Bass kick), 10:51. Buf: FG Bass 41, 2:31. **Second Quarter** 

NYJ: Cole 40 pass from Wilson (Pineiro kick), 3:51. Buf: FG Bass 21, :00. Third Quarter NYJ: FG Pineiro 49, 3:55. Fourth Quarter Buf: Singletary 1run (Bass kick), 8:21.

Buf: Singletary 5pass from Allen (Bass

**TEAM STATS** NYJ BUF First downs 25 424 Total net vards 53 33-170 254 Rushes-yards 17-48 Passing Punt returns 2-5 5-28 Kickoff returns Interceptions ret. 0-0 0-0 1-7 0-0 Comp-att-int 7-20-0 25-46-0 Sacked-yards lost 9-82 Punts 11-45.182 7-33.857 Fumbles-lost 1-0 Penalties-yards Time of possession 4-27

RUSHING: N.Y. lets. Wilson 2-24. Carter 9-19, Coleman 5-6, Johnson 1-(-1). Buffalo, Singletary 19-88, Allen 5-63, McKenzie 1-10, Moss 5-8, Trubisky 3-(-3). **PASSING:** N.Y. Jets, Wilson 7-20-0-87. Buffalo, Allen 24-45-0-239, Trubisky RECEIVING: N.Y. Jets, Cole 3-54, Crowder

1-16, Black 1-10, Kroft 1-5, J.Smith 1-2. Buffalo, Diggs 9-81, Beasley 4-31, Knox 3-49, Davis 3-39, Singletary 2-24, Moss 2-6, Kumerow 1-15, McKenzie 1-9. TACKLES-ASSISTS-SACKS: N.Y. Jets, Mosley 12-1-0, Pinnock 4-2-0. Buffalo, Rousseau 5-0-0, Pover 3-1-2, Milano 3-0-1, Oliver 2-2-1.5, Epenesa 1-0-1.

**DETROIT 37, GREEN BAY 30** 

Green Bay Detroit 7 6 3 14 - 30 7 10 7 13 - 37 First Quarter **GB:** Lazard 1pass from Aa.Rodgers (Crosby kick), 7:42. **Det:** Raymond 75pass from Kennedy (Patterson kick), 1:29.
Second Quarter
Det: A.St. Brown 2pass from Goff (Patterson kick), 7:00. **GB:** Lazard 29pass from Aa.Rodgers (kick failed), 2:34.

Det: FG Patterson 34, :02. Third Quarter
Det: Wright 36pass from Goff (Patterson kick), 12:50. **GB:** FG Crosby 36, 7:38. Fourth Quarter GB: P.Taylor 1run (pass failed), 14:12. Det: FG Patterson 36, 6:39. GB: Deguara 62pass from Love (Love

run), 4:49. **Det:** Swift 14run (Patterson kick), 1:54. **Det:** FG Patterson 27, :48. TEAM STATS First downs 22 Total net yards Rushes-yards Passing 256

19 305 1-23 2-48 Punt returns 0-0 Interceptions ret. 2-26 Comp-att-int Sacked-yards lost 24-35-2 22-32-0 1-35.0 2-48.5 Punts 0-0 2-15 Fumbles-lost Penalties-yards Time of possession 33:47

RUSHING: Green Bay, Dillon 14-63, P.Taylor 11-53, Aa.Rodgers 1-7, Love 1-(minus 1). Detroit, J.Williams 13-43, Swift 7-30, Raymond 1-13, St. Brown 1-12, C.Reynolds 3-2, Boyle 1-(minus 1). **PASSING:** Green Bay, Aa.Rodgers 14-18-0-138, Love 10-17-2-134. Detroit, Goff 21-30-0-238, Kennedy 1-1-0-75, Fox 0-1-0-0. RECEIVING: Green Bay, Adams 6-55, Lazard 5-75, Deguara 3-66, Winfree 3-16, St. Brown 2-22, P.Taylor 2-3, Dafney 1-26, Am.Rodgers 1-5, Dillon 1-4. Detroit, St. Brown 8-109, Raymond 4-101, Swift 4-16, Wright 2-51, Kennedy 2-16, J.Reynolds 1-11, J.Williams 1-9.

**TENNESSEE 28, HOUSTON 25** 0 21 0 7 - 28 0 0 10 15 - 25 Houston Second Quarter Ten: Firkser 5pass from Tannehill (Bull-ock kick), 7:40. Ten: A.Brown 14pass from Tannehill (Bullock kick), 1:34. Ten: Westbrook-Ikhine 4pass from Tannehill (Bullock kick), :11.

playoff-bound Pats.

Third Quarter
Hou: C.Moore 28pass from Mills (Fairbairn kick), 9:46. **Hou:** FG Fairbairn 31, 2:14 **Fourth Quarter Hou:** Amendola 7pass from Mills (Amendola pass from Mills), 11:40. Ten: Ju. Jones 3 pass from Tannehill (Bullock kick), 7:00. **Hou:** Amendola 26pass from Mills (Fairbairn kick), 4:04.

**TEAM STATS** First downs 23 402 Total net yards Rushes-yards Passing 281 289 4-23 3-58 Punt returns Interceptions ret. 0-0 0-0 Comp-att-int Sacked-yards lost 23-32-0 23-33-0 1-6 2-12 4-49.25 5-42.6 Punts 2-0 5-42 Fumbles-lost Penalties-yards Time of possession 33:34

**RUSHING:** Tennessee, Foreman 21-66, Hilliard 9-57, Tannehill 2-(minus 2). Houston, D.Johnson 5-28, Burkhead

12-24, Mills 4-12. **PASSING:** Tennessee, Tannehill 23-32-0-287. Houston, Mills 23-33-0-301.
RECEIVING: Tennessee, Ju.Jones 5-58,
Westbrook-Ikhine 4-78, A.Brown 4-68, Firkser 4-56, Rogers 2-4, Foreman 1-15, Blasingame 1-5, Swaim 1-2, Hilliard 1-1. Houston, Amendola 7-113, N.Collins 3-67, Burkhead 3-42, C.Moore 3-38, Cooks 3-26, D.Johnson 3-8, Auclair 1-7. MISSED FIELD GOALS: Ten, Bullock 42.

**SEATTLE 38, ARIZONA 30** Seattle Arizona 7 10 7 14 - 38 7 3 14 6 - 30 First Quarter Ari: Allen 16fumble return (Prater kick), Sea: Lockett 43pass from R.Wilson (Myers kick), 12:26. Second Quarter Ari: FG Prater 41, 11:44. Sea: Lockett 5pass from R.Wilson (Myers kick), 7:41. Sea: FG Myers 38, 1:21. **Third Quarter** Ari: Conner 20pass from K.Murray (Prater kick), 11:02. Ari: Conner 1run (Prater kick), 9:25. Sea: Swain 25pass from R.Wilson

(Mvers kick), 1:57. Fourth Quarter Sea: R.Wilson 4run (Myers kick), 13:15. Ari: FG Prater 30, 6:14. Sea: Penny 62run (Myers kick), 4:34. Ari: FG Prater 36, 1:13.

**SEA** 19 431 **TEAM STATS** ARI First downs 20 295 Total net vards Rushes-yards Passing 30-202 28-108 229 187 Punt returns 2-20 0-0 Kickoff returns Interceptions ret. 0-0 0-0 15-26-1 28-39-0 Comp-att-int Sacked-yards lost 1-9 2-39.0 3-51.333 Punts Fumbles-lost 1-1 1-1 Penalties-yards Time of possession 4-30

RUSHING: Seattle, Penny 23-190. Wilson 4-5, Homer 1-4, Lockett 1-2, Dallas 1-1. Arizona, Conner 15-52, K.Murray 5-35, Benjamin 7-31, Lee 1-(minus 10). **PASSING:** Seattle, Wilson 15-26-1-238. Arizona, K.Murray 28-39-0-240. **RECEIVING:** Seattle, Lockett 5-98, Metcalf 5-58, Parkinson 2-14, Swain

1-25, Homer 1-23, Everett 1-20. Arizona, Ertz 7-84, Conner 6-41, Benjamin 4-25, Green 4-23, Kirk 2-43, Wesley 2-17. Dortch 2-5, Ward 1-2.

INTERCEPTIONS: Arizona, J.Thomp-

PITTSBURGH 16, BALTIMORE 13, OT Pittsburgh Baltimore First Ouarter Pit: FG Boswell 28, 6:06. Second Quarter Bal: FG Tucker 24, :11.

**Third Quarter** Bal: L.Murray 46run (Tucker kick), Pit: FG Boswell 40, 7:41. Fourth Quarter Pit: Claypool 6pass from Roethlis-

berger (Boswell kick), 2:54. **Bal:** FG Tucker 46, 1:13. First Overtime Pit: FG Boswell 36, 1:56. **TEAM STATS** 

PIT BAL First downs Total net yards 20 381 Rushes-yards 30-79 36-249 132 1-0 5-113 Passing 235 Punt returns Kickoff returns 3-66 2-0 1-0 30-44-1 16-32-2 Interceptions ret. Comp-att-int Sacked-yards lost 1-9 3-9 Punts Fumbles-lost 8-37.25 7-38.286 0-0 2-1 1-5 Penalties-yards Time of possession 6-43 36:49 31:15

11-28, Snell 12-22, Ballage 1-0, Roeth-lisberger 3-(-4). Bal, L.Murray 16-150, Huntley 12-72, Freeman 5-21, T.Williams PASSING: Pittsburgh, Roethlisberger 30-44-1-244. Baltimore, Huntley 16-31-30-44-1-244. Battimore, Huntley 16-31-2-141, Koch 0-1-0-0. RECEIVING: Pittsburgh, D.Johnson 7-51, Freiermuth 6-53, Claypool 5-37, Gentry 4-39, McCloud 4-37, Harris 4-27. Baltimore, Andrews 8-85, Brown 3-27, Bateman 2-22, Freeman 2-6, Oliver 1-1,

RUSHING: Pit. Claypool 3-33, Harris

TACKLES-ASSISTS-SACKS: Pittsburgh, Heyward 6-0-1, Fitzpatrick 6-0-0, T.Watt 4-1-1, Wormley 4-0-1. Baltimore, Bynes 6-2-0, Bowser 5-1-0, Seymour 3-0-1. **INTERCEPTIONS:** Pit, Te.Edmunds 1-0, Sutton 1-0. Baltimore, Stone 1-0.

SAN FRANCISCO 27, L.A. RAMS 24, OT San Francisco 0 3 14 7 3 – 27 L.A. Rams 3 14 0 7 0 – 24 **First Ouarter** LAR: FG Gay 43, 6:07.
Second Quarter
LAR: Higbee 2pass from Stafford (Gay

kick), 10:26. LAR: Higbee 15pass from Stafford (Gay kick), 6:44. SF: FG Gould 42, :00.

SF: FG Gould 42, 100.
Third Quarter
SF: Samuel 16run (Gould kick), 10:32.
SF: Jennings 24pass from Samuel
(Gould kick), 1:46. Fourth Ouarter

LAR: Kupp 4pass from Stafford (Gay kick), 2:29. SF: Jennings 14pass from Garoppolo (Gould kick), :26. First Overtime SF: FG Gould 24, 2:45.

**TEAM STATS** SF LAR First downs 23 19 Total net yards Rushes-yards 265 27-64 449 31-135 Passing 314 201 Punt returns 1-14 Kickoff returns 1-11 Interceptions ret. 2-0 2-10 Comp-att-int Sacked-yards lost 24-33-2 21-32-2 3-26 5-37 4-43.75 4-49.5 Punts Fumbles-lost Penalties-yards Time of possession 36:44

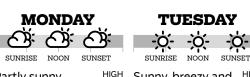
RUSHING: San Francisco, Mitchell 21-85, Samuel 8-45, Hasty 1-4, Garoppolo 1-1. L.A. Rams, Michel 21-43, Kupp 1-18, C.Akers 5-3.

PASSING: San Francisco, Garoppolo 23-32-2-316, Samuel 1-1-0-24. L.A. Rams, Stafford 21-32-2-238. RECEIVING: San Francisco, Aiyuk 6-107, Jennings 6-94, Kittle 5-10, Samuel 4-95, Hasty 2-21, Sherfield 1-13. L.A. Rams,

Kupp 7-118, Higbee 6-55, C.Akers 3-10, Jefferson 2-31, Beckham 2-18, Michel

MISSED FIELD GOALS: None.

#### WEATHER



Partly sunny, breezy and colder. An afternoon and evening snow shower or flurry is possible.

29<sup>°</sup>

Sunny, breezy and very cold. Wind chill values near or below zero for most of the day.



**WEDNESDAY** 

ക് ക് ക SUNRISE NOON Thickening afternoon 36

**THURSDAY** 

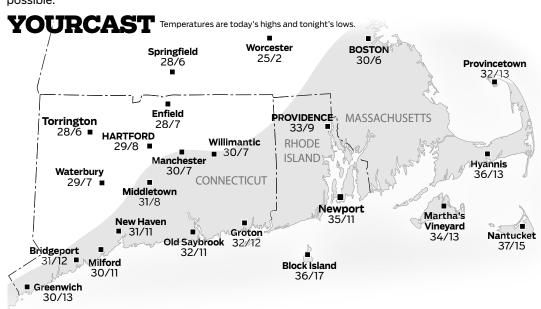
cloudiness seasonable. Snow showers are possible at night. **20** 

**FRIDAY** െ ക് ക് SUNRISE NOON

Becoming partly sunny, slight chance for an early flurry or snow shower. breezy and cold.

HIGH 31 14°





#### Seattle 47/45/C 30s 0s Billings Lebanon Minneapolis 0 43/41/SH 0s • 30s Philadelphia 05 0 Denver 32/19/PC Anchorage 20/9/PC San 40s 25/22/C Kansas City 56/46/PC Washington D.C. €,10s Juneau 237/36/R 50s 40/22/PC 30s 50s 60s Phoenix 40s **Atlanta** Los 50s 73/49/S 53/31/S **Angeles** 70s Dallas 52/31/C.■ 50s ■56/31/S Honoluju 80/68/PC Houston Tampa 59/34/PC 78/57/C Miami

## **OUTLOOK**

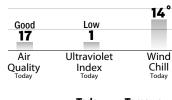
Arctic air will begin spilling into the region on Monday. It will be partly sunny and breezy with northwest winds of 10 to 15 mph. The actual high temperature for today already occurred after midnight and the high temperatures listed in the YOURCAST map are today's daytime highs. Lake effect snow showers and flurries are likely in New York and Pennsylvania and its possible that a few will reach into Connecticut later this afternoon and into the evening. Low temperatures overnight will be in the single digits above zero, while wind chill readings will be in the single digits below zero. -Gary Lessor

#### **ALMANAC**

Precipitation In Inches	Total	Norma
Yesterday (by 7 p.m.)	0.07	0.11
Month to date	0.96	1.01
Total this year	0.96	1.01
Snowfall In Inches		
Yesterday (by 4 p.m.)	Trace	0.4
Total this year	9.6	16.1

Precipitation, temperature at Windsor Locks

#### Air Quality Forecast For Today



	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise	7:17 a.m.	7:17 a.m
Sunset	4:39 p.m.	4:40 p.m
Moonrise	11:57 a.m.	12:20 p.m
Moonset	12:36 a.m.	1:38 a.m.

woon Phase					
<b>Full</b> Jan 17	<b>Last</b> Jan 25	<b>New</b> Feb 1	<b>First</b> Feb 8		

Sydney

Tel Aviv

Tokyo

Toronto

Vancouver

WESTERN

UNIVERSITY

CONNECTICUT

Weather Center

27 20 PC

84 72 SH

64 47 S

50 37 C

23 0 SF

43 41 R

30 23 S

# 30-day Precipitation History In Inches 0.3 0.2 0.1

Tides	High	Low	Temp.
N.L. State Pier	3:35 a.m.	10:15 a.m.	41°
	3:50 p.m.	10:16 p.m.	
Saybrook Jetty	4:46 a.m.	11:08 a.m.	40°
	5:01 p.m.	11:09 p.m.	
Connecticut River	7:29 a.m.	2:03 a.m.	
at Portland	7:44 p.m.	2:54 p.m.	
Madison	4:52 a.m.	11:12 a.m.	40°
	5:20 p.m.	11:23 p.m.	
New Haven	5:12 a.m.	11:36 a.m.	38°
	5:40 p.m.	11:47 p.m.	
Stamford	5:16 a.m.	11:50 a.m.	42°
	5:44 p.m.	p.m.	

River Stage at Hartford: 3.77 feet at 5:00 p.m.

Boating	L.I. Sound W	L.I. Sound E	B. I. Sound
Weather	PCloudy	PCloudy	PCloudy
Wind	NW, 15-20	NW, 15-20	NW, 15-20
Seas	2-4 ft.	2-4 ft.	3-5 ft.

Temperature	High	Low
Sunday	38 at 2:39 p.m	15 at 12:13 a.m
Normal for date	35	19
Record for date	64 in 1937	-9 in 1968
A year ago	36	21
Range this year	52	11
		Last

Season

2112

High

30.50 at 2 a.m.

30° at 5 p.m.

Normal

2503

Season

2245

Low

29.95 at 5 p.m.

6° at 2 a.m.

**Heating Degree Days** 

For July 1 - Jan 9

80 70 HIGHS

Atmosphere

Barometer

Dew point

**30-day Temperature History** 

## AROUND THE WORLD Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

New Orleans 54 41 PC

32 15 PC

34 23 S

76 51 SH

49 25 PC

39 21 S

58 37 PC

Goals: C-Zach Olson, Damon Zurolo, Devin

Kelly, Evan Vasilievs A-Dom Harris. Saves: C-

Amaan Chaudhry, 24 A—Aiden Courtney, 40. Rec.: C—2-4-1 A—1-5. Note: Kelly scored his

56 26

Nashville

New York

Okla. City

Omaha

Orlando

Raleigh

St. Louis

San Antonio

Pittsburgh

19 10 PC

24 5 PC

55 32 PC

32 12 PC

28 12 PC

65 41 C

60 40 PC

79 69 T

		Baltimore
Bangor	18 -7 PC	
Burlington	20 -4 C	Bismarck
Caribou	7 -17 PC	Boise
Concord	21 2 PC	Buffalo
Montpelier	16 -7 C	Charleston
		Cincinnati
Mt. Wash.	-6 -26 C	Cleveland
Portland	25 4 PC	
Woods Hole	31 11 PC	Indianapolis
Woods Hole	31 11 1 0	Jacksonville
NATION		Las Vegas
Albany	27 4 C	Miami Beach
		Milwaukee
Alhuguargua	40 28 DC	wiiiwaukee

**NEW ENGLAND** 

**LOCAL SCOREBOARD** 

EAST GRANBY (0-4): Melina Betts 0-2-2, Sarah Springer 4-1-10, Ava Guyer 4-5-14, Sarah Phillips 3-0-6, Tayler Hayes 1-0-2, Chloe Rapose 1-0-2.

ROCKVILLE (1-5): Layla Tate 5-0-12, Makayla Major 1-0-2, Sara Stone 1-0-2, Caitlin Chatterton

3-0-6, Chloe Keane 2-0-4, Jenny Gorski 4-3-11, Jaidan Torres 0-1-1, Anaya Tolton 2-0-5. Totals

NEWINGTON (8-0): Lily Ferguson 9-5-25, Karissa Zocco 1-0-3, Selah Prignano 0-2-2, Bela Cucuta 2-2-6, Marlie Zocco 1-0-3, Kendall Miller 3-2-10.

TRUMBULL (3-2): Emma Gentry 4-2-10, Corinn Ouellette 0-2-2, Sarah Stolze 4-1-10, Lauryn

Wright 2-0-5, Emi Roberto 3-1-10. Totals 13-6-37.

N 11 12 19 7 — 49 T 7 6 14 10 — 37 **Note:** Miller had 8rebounds and M. Zocco had 6

EG 10 6 12 8 — 36 R 5 15 11 12 — 43 **Note:** Gorski had 6rebounds.

Newington 49, Trumbull 37

Saturday's late high school results

**GIRLS BASKETBALL** 

Rockville 43, East Granby 36

NCCC

Totals 13-8-36.

Totals 16-11-49.

rebounds, 3assists.

CCC-South

SCC/SWC

Cheshire 4, Amity 1

**BOYS HOCKEY** 

Hall 4, Rocky Hill co-op 2

Conard 5, Northeastern 1

2 2 0 0 1 1

Konopka had 2assists for Rocky Hill.

2 1 2 - 0 0 1 -

Goals: C-Aiden Shaughnessy, Brady Narus,

Jack Hodgson, Jack Wenz, Gavin McGowen

N-Jason Tew. Saves: C-Blake Ittleson, 22

N-Jack Bell, 19. Rec.: C-3-3-1

Goals: H-Ben Gerken (2), Owen Miller, Matt

RH-Brody Davidson, Gabe Boily Rec.: H—3-1 RH—2-3. Note: Miller and Hudson Hollander each had 2assists for Hall. Connor

71 51 PC 12 4 PC San Diego Bermuda KEY: S Sunny, C Cloudy, PC Partly Cloudy, R Rain, SH Showers, SN Snow, SF Snow Flurries, T T-storms

Salt Lake City 41 23 PC

## WRESTLING

RHAM 60, Ellis Tech 18 Ellis Tech 54, Suffield/Windsor Locks 24 Amity 57, Newington 24 Darien 36, Newington 33 **Southington Duals** Hand 51, Maloney 18 Platt 37, Conard 36 Monday's high school schedule All games at 6:45p.m. unless noted

#### **BOYS BASKETBALL** CCC-South: Platt at Lewis Mills

CCC-Inter: Bristol Eastern at Rocky Hill, 6:30 East Hartford at Middletown Manchester at Farmington Hall at Berlin Newington at Bristol Central Plainville at Simsbury Hartford Public Plainville at Simsbury Hartford Public at Southington Bulkeley at Conard Shoreline: Hale-Ray at East Hampton, 6p.m. Old Saybrook at Morgan, 7p.m. am-Killingworth at Old Lyme, 7p.m. No Branford at Portland, 7p.m. CTC: Cheney Tech at Vinal Tech, 5:30p.m. North CRAL: Innovation at MLC, 7p.m. SCC: Amity at Xavier, 5:30p.m. at Sheehan, 7p.m. Lyman Hall at Fair-

field Prep, 7p.m.

Others: East Windsor at Civic Leadership, 5p.m. Aerospace at Amistad, 6p.m. Academy at Windham Tech, 7p.m.

# **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

CCC-North: Rocky Hill at Hartford Public, 5:30 p.m. CCC-East: East Hartford at E.O. Smith CCC-Inter: Conard at Manchester ington at Plainville Hall at Wethersfield,

Shoreline: Old Lyme at Haddam-Killingworth, 5:30p.m. Morgan at Old Saybrook, 7p.m. Portland at North Branford, 7p.m. Lyman Hall at Law, 7p.m. Cromwell at Cogin chaug, 7p.m. **CTC:** Kaynor Tech at Cheney Tech, 5:30p.m.

CRAL: Civic Leadership at Weaver, 4:45p.m. SCC: West Haven at Cheshire, 6p.m. Sheehan at Guilford, 7p.m. Amity at Mercy, 7:15p.m. SHA at Hand, 7p.m.

41 21

95 75 PC

65 49 S

81 70 T

55 37 C

50 39 C

16 9 PC

70 61 PC

55 48 C

Lisbon

London

Madrid

Milan

Montreal

Moscow

Nassau

Paris

Rome

Prague

Rio de Janeiro 79 70

New Delhi

Mexico City

63 48 PC

46 45 C

59 43 S

66 46 PC

14-11 PC

23 16 SN

66 45 C

45 30 C

50 39 C

88 77 SH

48 25

79 61

Others: East Windsor at Innovation, 4:15p.m. Killingly at Capital Prep, 4:30p.m.

82 72 PC

67 46 S

41 32 PC

55 46 SH

83 75 SH

36 18 S

36 23 C

70 57 SH

64 56

95 75

Budanest

Cancun

Dublin

Edinburah

Hong Kong

Helsinki

Istanbul

Jerusalem

Johannesburg 77 61 PC

Buenos Aires

San Juan

WORLD

Amsterdam

Athens

Bangkok

Barbados

Beijing

Berlin

CCC: East Catholic co-op at Conard/Hall, 7:20 SCC: Amity co-op at West Haven/SHA, 4p.m.

## WRESTLING

CCC-West: Farmington at Hall, 6p.m. TRACK AND FIELD

## Others: James Barber Invitational (Southern.

New Haven), 4p.m. H-K Invitational (Floyd Little AC, New Haven), 5p.m.

## SCC: Xavier at H-K/Morgan/Valley, 4p.m.

Saturday's late college result WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## Fairfield 62, Rider 44

Sunday's college results **MEN'S BASKETBALL** 

#### Wesleyan 81, Bates 72 Niagara 76, Quinnipiac 66

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Siena 69, Fairfield 62

# UConn 63, Creighton 55 Bates 91, Wesleyan 82

#### Williams 6, Wesleyan 1 Tuesday's college schedule

MEN'S BASKETBALL

#### Quinnipiac at Canisius, 2p.m. Iona at Fairfield, 2p.m. Mitchell at Trinity, 7p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALI

Trinity at Mitchell, 6p.m. **MEN'S HOCKEY** 

RIT at Sacred Heart, 4p.m.

#### Wesleyan at Colby, 5p.m. MEN'S SWIMMING

Mount Holyoke, Vassar at Trinity, 1p.m.

## WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Vassar at Trinity, 1p.m.						
AHL						

Atlantic	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	PTS	PCT		
Springfield	30	18	9	2	1	39	.650		
Hershev	31	18	10	2	1	39	.629		
Hartford	28	15	9	2	2	34	.607		
Providence	26	13	9	3	1	30	.577		
Charlotte	29	15	12	2	Ō	32	.552		
Lehigh Valley	27	9	11	5	2	25	.463		
Bridgeport	35	12	16	3	4	31	.443		
W-B/Scranton	27	9	14	1	3	22	.407		
North	GP	w	Ĺ	OTL	SOL	PTS	PCT		
Utica	25	19	3	3	0	41	.820		
Rochester	29	18	11	0	0	36	.621		
Toronto	25	13	10	1	1	28	.560		
Laval	24	12	10	2	0	26	.542		
Cleveland	27	11	9	4	3	29	.537		
Syracuse	24	11	10	2	1	25	.521		
Belleville	27	13	14	0	Ō	26	.481		
Central	GP	W	Ĺ	OTL	SOL	PTS	PCT		
Chicago	29	22	5	1	1	46	.793		
Manitoba	29	18	9	1	1	38	.655		
Grand Rapids	28	13	10	4	1	31	.554		
Rockford	26	13	11	1	1	28	.538		
lowa	29	12	13	2	2	28	.483		
Milwaukee	32	13	17	2	0	28	.438		
Texas	25	8	13	3	1	20	.400		
Pacific	GP	w	Ĺ	OTL	SOL	PTS	PCT		
Stockton	28	20	5	2	1	43	.768		
Ontario	25	16	6	2	1	35	.700		
Henderson	26	15	8	2	1	33	.635		
Bakersfield	24	10	8	3	3	26	.542		
Colorado	29	13	11	3	2	31	.534		
Tucson	24	11	10	2	1	25	.521		
Abbotsford	24	10	10	3	1	24	.500		
San Diego	24	10	12	2	0	22	.458		
San Jose	28	12	15	1	0	25	.446		
Saturday's late results									
Hartford 2, Utica 1									

Rockford 6, Milwaukee 2 Cleveland 2. Grand Rapids 1(OT) Chicago 6, Iowa 2 Manitoba 5, Texas 4 Colorado 3, Tucson 2(OT) San Jose 6, Henderson 3 Sunday's results Charlotte 3, Bridgeport 2(SO) Hershey 3, W-B/Scranton 2 Chicago 4, Cleveland 3 Stockton at Ontario, late Colorado at Tucson, late Bakersfield at Abbotsford, late Monday's schedule Springfield at Toronto, 3p.m. Bakersfield at Abbotsford, 10p.m.

BIG EAST BASKETBALL

MEN'S										
Team	CONF	CPCT	OVR	PCT						
Providence	4-1	.800	14-2	.875						
Villanova	4-1	.800	11-4	.733						
Xavier	2-1	.667	12-2	.857						
Creighton	2-1	.667	10-4	.714						
Seton Hall	2-2	.500	11-3	.786						
St. John's	1-1	.500	9-4	.692						
Marquette	2-3	.400	10-6	.625						
UConn	1-2	.333	10-4	.714						
Butler	1-2	.333	8-6	.571						
Georgetown	0-1	.000	6-6	.500						
	0-4	.000	9-5	.643						
Tuesday's schedule										
DePaul at Marquette, 7p.m.										
	eighton,	9p.m.								
				PCT						
				.800						
				.700						
				.714						
				.692						
				.615						
				.600						
				.385						
				.500						
Providence	1-3	.250	6-7	.462						
	Team Providence Villanova Xavier Creighton Seton Hall Set. John's Marquette UConn Butler Georgetown DePaul Tuesday's sched DePaul at Marqu	Team	Team CONF CPCT Providence 4-1 .800 Villanova 4-1 .800 Xavier 2-1 .667 Creighton 2-1 .667 Seton Hall 2-2 .500 St. John's 1-1 .500 Marquette 2-3 .400 UConn 1-2 .333 Butler 1-2 .333 Butler 1-2 .333 Georgetown 0-1 .000 DePaul 0-4 .000 Tuesday's schedule DePaul at Marquette, 7p.m. Providence at Creighton, 9p.m. WOMEN'S Team CONF CPCT DePaul 4-0 1.000 UConn 2-0 1.000 Creighton 5-1 .833 Marquette 2-2 .500 Villanova 2-2 .500 Georgetown 1-1 .500 Georgetown 1-1 .500 St. John's 1-2 .333 Seton Hall 1-3 .250	Team CONF CPCT OVR Providence 4-1 .800 14-2 Villanova 4-1 .800 11-4 Xavier 2-1 .667 12-2 Creighton 2-1 .667 10-4 Seton Hall 2-2 .500 11-3 St. John's 1-1 .500 9-4 Marquette 2-3 .400 10-6 UConn 1-2 .333 10-4 Butler 1-2 .333 8-6 Georgetown 0-1 .000 6-6 DePaul 0-4 .000 9-5  Tuesday's schedule DePaul at Marquette, 7p.m. Providence at Creighton, 9p.m. WOMEN'S Team CONF CPCT OVR DePaul 4-0 1.000 12-3 UConn 2-0 1.000 7-3 Creighton 2-0 1.000 7-3 Creighton 5-1 .833 10-4 Marquette 2-2 .500 9-4 Villanova 2-2 .500 8-5 Georgetown 1-1 .500 6-4 St. John's 1-2 .333 5-8 Seton Hall 1-3 .250 6-6						

1-3

Villanova at Georgetown, canceled

UConn 63, Creighton 55

Providence at Xavier, 7p.m

Xavier

Butler



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